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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied regularly to every member of the following Societies:—

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.  
South African Pharmaceutical Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Natal.  
Central Pharmaceutical Association of N.Z.  
Otago Pharmaceutical Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.  
Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

## CONTENTS: Vol. XLVIII. No. 14.

PAGE	PAGE
Advertising a Retail Drug-business..... 495	Legal Reports (cont.)—
Australasian News..... 478	Au Analyst's Contributions.. 488
Bankruptcies and Failures..... 488	Carbonate and Bicarbonate.. 488
British Patents..... 495	Sale of Poisoned Wheat .... 488
Business Changes..... 489	New Apparatus..... 497
Correspondence..... 503	New Companies and Company
Dispensing Notes..... 504	News..... 496
Legal Queries..... 505	Parliamentary Intelligence.... 498
Miscellaneous Inquiries..... 505	Personalities..... 499
Information Supplied..... 506	Reviews and Literary Notes.... 494
Deeds of Arrangement..... 489	Scotch News..... 477
Editorial Comments:—	Shops (Early-closing) Bill .... 479
Medical Etiquette..... 490	The Low-temperature Research .. 498
Antitoxin on its Trial..... 491	Trade-marks Applied for..... 496
The Apotheker Abroad..... 492	Trade Notes..... 499
The Citronella-oil Dispute .. 492	Trade Reports..... 500
The Active Substance of the	Winter Session:—
Thyroid..... 493	Chemical Society: Chemists'
Rediscovery of Pipeclay .... 493	Assistants' Association;
How Pepsin is Procured in	Plymouth and District
Chicago..... 493	Junior Chemists' Associa-
The Post Office and Samples	tion..... 483
of Liquids..... 493	Midland Pharmaceutical As-
English News..... 476	sociation; Brighton Junior
Foreign and Colonial News.... 478	Association of Pharmacy;
French News..... 477	Sheffield Pharmaceutical
Gazette..... 489	and Chemical Society;
Irish News..... 477	Liverpool Pharmaceutical
Local Reports:—	Students' Society; Dublin
The "Yorkshire Relish" Case 486	Assistants' Association.... 484
Sheffield Drug-dealer's Bill of	Edinburgh District Chemists'
Sale..... 487	Trade Association..... 485

## COLONIAL ISSUE.

THE publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST proposes to specially address on April 25 all business houses connected with the drug-trade in Australasia, India, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, South Africa, West Indies, China, Japan, and many other places abroad. In view of the remarkable growth of colonial trade, which is apparent at the present time, full advantage of this means for improving their export-business should be taken by all firms who do business with the drug-trade.

## Summary.

DR VERNON HARCOURT has been re-elected President of the Chemical Society (p. 483).

SOME readings of difficult prescriptions are given and commented on on p. 504.

BRIEF abstracts of recent British patents of chemical interest are given on p. 495.

A DEALER at Beccles has been fined 5*l.* and 2*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* costs for selling poisoned wheat (p. 488).

WE quote from an American expert some notions on advertising a retail drug-business (p. 495).

A BILL of sale on a stock of drugs cannot be maintained against creditors if the stock has varied since the bill of sale was given. This came out in a county court case at Sheffield (p. 487).

THE Shops (Early-closing) Bill, it is reported, is to be warmly opposed in some of its essential details on report. The London members seem to be its principal opponents. (p. 479).

WE publish some further reminiscences by Mr. Ledger of his experiences in obtaining the "Rojo" cinchona-seeds, for his services in which direction he considers he has not been properly rewarded by the Dutch government (p. 504).

OUR Paris correspondent quotes some of the comments of the Press on M. Berthelot's resignation of his portfolio as foreign minister. The chemist, it seems, is generally considered to have been a failure as a diplomatist (p. 479).

PROFESSOR DUNSTAN, F.R.I., has submitted his resignation of the directorship of the Pharmaceutical Society's Research Laboratory. He has been appointed director of Scientific and Technical Research to the Imperial Institute (p. 482).

A FOOD company ordered some carbonate of soda from a London merchant and bought it from sample. But it turned out that they wanted bicarbonate. Hence an action in the City of London Court. But they had to pay for the carbonate (p. 488).

THE author of the Pharmacy Bill for Jersey does not expect to get his measure through this Session, but he has amended it by making chemists who established themselves since January last ineligible for the benefit of the saving clause (p. 477).

THE markets are now practically closed until after Easter. The week, however, has been a pretty eventful one, the chief alterations being an advance in salicylic acid and a drop in refined camphor. There has been a strong demand for East Indian gums (p. 500).

THE Pharmaceutical Council meeting on Wednesday was a well-attended and lengthy one, but it was largely occupied with routine-work. The Company Bill and Dr. Stevenson's report on the results of the examinations for the year also claimed a share of attention (p. 480).

SIX of the candidates for the Pharmaceutical Council election in May are at present outsiders. These are Messrs. Armitage (Leeds), Bateson (Kendal), Campkin (Cambridge), Park (Plymouth), Symes (Liverpool), and Wills (Croydon). Mr. N. H. Martin is not a candidate (p. 480).

SOME French soldiers had been assisting to remove the furniture of a hospital at Lille which was threatened by fire, and in the dispensary they found some liquid which looked like brandy. They drank the liquid, and seven of them have died. It is believed that they drank tincture of aconite (p. 478).

THREE judges in the Court of Appeal have unanimously confirmed the judgment of Mr. Justice Stirling restraining the Birmingham Vinegar Brewery Company from selling "Yorkshire Relish" in a way not sufficiently distinguishable from that sold by Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co. The latter firm have no trade-mark right in the title, but they have a common law right to prevent other persons from selling an article in such a way as may lead the public to believe that their article is being supplied. Lord Justice Lindley's review of the law on the subject is of great value (p. 488).





## English News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

### Drug-contracts.

The following contracts for the supply of drugs, &c., to workhouse have been accepted by Boards of Guardians:—

Ashford.—Mr. White, chemist and druggist, of Ashford, has been appointed chemist and druggist to the Board for the ensuing six months.

Croydon.—Baiss Brothers & Co., London, drugs; C. T. Cox & Sons, London, soaps.

Chard.—W. H. Smith: Cod-liver oil, 1s. 1½d. per pint; quinine, 1s. 8d.; single trusses, 1s. 6d.; double trusses, 2s. 6d.

Dartford.—Mr. Tacker, chemist and druggist, Dartford: Cod-liver oil, &c.

Evesham.—Mr. Kingzett: Cod-liver oil, 1s.; castor oil, 1s.; quinine-mixture, 4d.; single trusses, 2s. and 3s.; double ditto, 3s.; linseed, 2s. 6d.; carbolic acid, 2s.; Condy's fluid, 10s.; Sanitas soap (bar), 33s.; ditto soft, 32s.; Sanitas fluid, 4s. 6d.; Sanitas powder, 12s. 6d.; McDougall's carbolic bar-soap, 32s.; ditto soft, 30s.; Kepler's malt and cod-liver oil, 2s. Mr. Mills: Arrowroot, 4d. per lb.; saltpetre, 3d.

Fakenham.—Cod-liver oil, Mr. Abram, Walsingham, at 1s. 10½d. per pint.

Greenwich.—Drugs, Baiss Brothers, London.

Horsham.—Medicines, Mr. R. Gallier.

Isle of Wight Union.—Jordan & Stanley, Newport: salt-petre 3d. per lb. J. T. Percival, London: Sanitas soap (No. 2), 29s. 9d. per cwt.; pearl barley, 8s. 6d. per cwt. Matthews & Sons, Cowes: meat extract, 8½d. per tin; borax, 2½d. per lb. Mr. Irving, London: carbolic (No. 2) soap, 14s. per cwt.

Lewisham.—Braden & Co., crushed linseed.

Midhurst.—Mr. F. R. Kemp, Midhurst, cod-liver oil at 14s. 8d.

Peterborough.—Mr. T. J. Calcutt, Peterborough, cod-liver oil and quinine.

Taunton.—Gregory & Wrenn: Cod-liver oil, 3d. per ½ pint; single trusses, 6d.; double ditto, 9d.

### Alleged Fraud on a Chemist.

At Reading Police Court on March 26, Henry Kempson, of 9 Market Street, Lichfield, was charged with obtaining by means of false pretences from Mr. F. Mays, chemist, Friar Street, Reading, 4l. 6s. 11d. on September 28, and 4l. 1s. on October 2 last. Mr. Mays stated that he cashed two cheques for the prisoner for the amounts named, both of which were dishonoured. Accused subsequently wrote to witness expressing sorrow for the trouble he had caused, and adding that he was expecting a cheque, and would clear the matter up. He, however, failed to keep his promise. Defendant was committed for trial, bail being allowed.

### Wine licences.

Mr. W. G. Blackham has been granted wine-licences for his two business premises at 675 Holloway Road, N., and at 510 Hornsey Road, N.

### London Chamber of Commerce.

The annual meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce was held on Monday last at the offices, Botolph House, Eastcheap, Sir Albert K. Rollit, M.P., in the chair. The annual report of the Council, which was unanimously adopted, stated that three meetings of the chemical-trade section and of its sub-sections were held during the year.

The question of weights and measures was dealt with, and arrangements were made for the adequate representation of the views of the section and of the chemical and drug trades before the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire "whether any and what changes in the present system should be adopted." Several members representing the various sections of the trade were appointed to give evidence at the Committee, and to testify to the serious disadvantages under which the trades were placed by the present law in regard to the execution of foreign and colonial orders, which it was absolutely essential to make up according to the metric system. A lengthy discussion took place in regard to the Food and Drugs Act, and on the present position of the adulteration question. The resolutions adopted by the section during the previous year to the effect that it was desirable that the law relating to drugs should be disassociated from that relating to foods, and that a board of reference for consultation and appeal regarding disputed analyses should be constituted, were confirmed, and arrangements completed for the adequate representation of the views of the section before the Parliamentary Food-products' Adulteration Committee. The question of the adulteration of white lead with barytes and other substances, and the customs of the trade in regard to white-lead admixtures, were considered by the white-lead sub-section. A special committee was appointed to consider the subject, and to collect evidence of cases in which adulterated white lead had been illegally sold and guaranteed as "genuine" white lead. A guarantee fund, amounting to about 5,000l., was organised for the purpose of taking steps by prosecutions under the Merchandise Marks Acts, or otherwise, to put an effectual stop to this practice. The question of the manner in which the trade should deal with white-lead admixtures was also exhaustively considered by the sub-section, but no decision had been arrived at at the end of the year.

### The Dartford Hospital.

At the annual meeting of the subscribers of the Dartford Livingstone Cottage Hospital, on March 25, the committee reported that the debt had been entirely cleared off, largely owing to the Burroughs Memorial Fund, which was raised to honour and perpetuate the memory of the late Mr. S. M. Burroughs, the first president of the hospital. The fund, amounting to 713l. 18s. 4d., had enabled the building fund to be closed, and Lieut.-Colonel Kidd, chairman of the committee, in commenting on the loss which the hospital had suffered by the death of Mr. Burroughs, said he knew of no better way of perpetuating his memory than by keeping the institution going.

### The Jersey Pharmacy Bill.

At the sitting of the Legislative Chamber held on March 26, Dr. W. Duret-Aubin presented a petition signed by the principal local chemists and druggists complaining that any unqualified person could now sell drugs, poisons, &c., without let or hindrance, and urging the House to adopt the Pharmacy Bill. Dr. Duret-Aubin added that, the close of the current session being so near, he hardly dared to ask a date for the debate this year; but it was important the matter should be dealt with as soon as possible, for otherwise numbers of unqualified persons would probably cross to Jersey from both England and France and set up in business there, and then claim the advantages of the indulgence-clauses of the measure when it became law. These people could now only take refuge in either Jersey or the Isle of Man, and once allowed to gain a footing would be got rid of with difficulty. The speaker said he had recently seen an advertisement of a chemist's business for sale in the island to which was appended the significant note that no diploma need be obtained to practise there. Dr. Duret-Aubin remarked also that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST had taken up the matter. The tabling of the petition was agreed to *nem. dis.* and the President of the Chamber, Sir George Clt. Bertram (Bailiff of Jersey), who evidently favours the measure in principle, suggested that it would be a simple matter to introduce some proviso therein with the object of limiting the application of the indulgence clauses to those who had practised in the island for two years or some such period. At last Monday's sitting of the Jersey States, Deputy Duret-Aubin obtained the tabling of an amendment to his Bill, with the object of providing that the indulgence clauses should



apply only to those chemists and druggists who were in business on January 1 last, and not to all who might be established before the promulgation of the law (as originally stipulated in article 4).

Interviewed by our local correspondent, Dr. Darat-Anbin who is a deservedly-esteemed member of the profession in Jersey, pointed out that there is actually no legal distinction between pharmacists and druggists in Jersey. With respect to chemists being apparently only allowed to omit the word "Poison" on bottles of medicine, &c., prepared by them according to medical prescriptions, as noted in our Editorial Comment last week, Dr. Anbin, we understand, has altered his Bill, which now specifies that any medicine can be dispensed by a registered chemist provided the name and address of the vendor appear on the label, and the ingredients of the prescription so prepared are duly entered, with the buyer's name, into the chemist's prescription-book. Then, too, with regard to the objection which some might raise against Irish "chemists and druggists" being included in the Jersey law, because in Ireland they are not allowed to dispense but only to sell poisons, &c., the Jersey law, Dr. Anbin says, recognises the right of all duly registered persons to dispense as well as to sell poisons, and it would not be possible now to make exceptions. Deputy Duret-Anbin was, we may add, urged to include provisions in his Bill for exempting pharmacists from jury and Militia service (the compulsory military system prevailing in Jersey), but he preferred not to risk his measure by adding provisions which would inevitably have raised opposition.

#### Suicide of a Chemist's Assistant.

Harry Clowes (21), chemist's assistant, who had been managing a branch business at 173 Radford Road, Nottingham, for Mr. James Lord, of Redcliffe Road, took a large dose of landannin on Saturday night last, and died on Sunday morning. He had given way to drink lately, and the jury found that he committed suicide while in a state of temporary insanity brought on by drink.



#### Drug-contracts.

The contract for drugs, &c., for the Strabane Union has been again given to Mr. James Hill, Castle Street, Strabane.

Messrs. Harrington & Son (Limited), chemists, Cork, have been appointed drug and medicine contractors to the Cork Board of Guardians.

The following drug and chemical houses have been appointed contractors for drugs and medicines during the past week:—Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin, Mallow Union; Messrs. Clarke & Co., Belfast, Kilkeel Union; Messrs. Smith & Sheppard, Dublin, surgical instruments, Mullingar Union.

#### Medicines for Unions.

At a meeting last week of the Guardians of the South Dublin Union a letter was read from the Local Government Board calling attention to the fact that in the form of tender for medicines submitted by the Guardians a large number of items were included which should not appear. Some of these referred to medicines which might be compounded by the resident medical officer, while others were stimulants under a disguised name. An amended list of drugs and medicines is to be sent to the Local Government Board.

#### Changed his Mind.

Dr. McWeeney, analytical chemist to the Richmond District Asylum, Dublin, who resigned last week as the pay was too small, has, on reflection, withdrawn his resignation.

#### The Apothecary's Work.

Mr. Clampett, a Guardian of the Waterford Poor-law Board, speaking last week on the question of appointing an apothecary for the Union, said the duties of that functionary would be only to pour medicine from one bottle to another, and, added the oracle, you would have to pay him a big salary for that.

#### Personal.

Mr. P. A. Leslie Peacocke has joined the firm of P. A. Leslie & Co., wholesale druggists, Dublin. He has had experience in the trade in the firm of George Llanan & Co., Edinburgh, and in that of Barron, Harveys & Co., London.



#### Personal.

The business of the late Mr. Alex. Mair, chemist and druggist, 162 Ferry Road, Leith, has been purchased by Mr. Gordon Smart, assistant to Mr. Claude F. Henry, 1 Brandon Terrace, Edinburgh.

Mr. D. B. Dott is leaving the laboratory of Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., parting with the firm on the most friendly terms. Mr. Dott is returning to the works of Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., where he passed many years as apprentice and assistant.

We regret to state that Mr. Peter MacEwan, formerly the Pharmaceutical Society's secretary in Scotland, and now on the editorial staff of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, has just lost his father, Mr. John MacEwan, a well known resident and ex-councillor of Lochee, Dundee. Mr. MacEwan, sen., had been in Lochee for forty-eight years, and took an active part in the religious and political work of the town. He had been in failing health for some years, and had been compelled to resign the public offices which he at one time held.

#### French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**COOKING-UTENSILS.**—The Paris Prefect of Police has just issued a notice prohibiting the manufacture or sale of utensils used for cooking food in which a total proportion of 10 per cent. of lead or 1 centigramme per 100 grammes of arsenic has been used in their manufacture.

**THE STERILISATION OF WATER.**—An inventor has made an offer to the City of Paris to sterilise river-water for town use by the aid of ozone. He undertakes to sterilise at his own risk 5,000 cubic metres of water daily. The Municipal Council has appointed two experts, members of the Paris Academy of Medicine, to study the question. Dr. Cornil is charged with the bacteriological part of the inquiry, and Dr. Schntzenberger with the chemical part.

**THE SYNDICAL CHAMBER OF CHEMICAL PRODUCTS** held its annual banquet a few days ago at the Hotel Continental, Paris, M. Georges Lefevre, presiding. There was a large attendance, including MM. Scheurer-Kestner and Poizier, Senators; MM. Schœsling, Friedel, Aimé Girard, Armand Gautier, Members of the Academy of Sciences, &c. Among the speeches M. Yves Gay toasted the "Disappearance of



Social Alchemy and the Dealers in Philosophical Stones," and M. Friedel announced the organisation of a large laboratory at the Paris Faculty of Sciences for practical studies.

M. BERTHELOT'S RESIGNATION has brought quite a storm of criticism on him. The French newspapers are almost unanimous in proclaiming him a failure as a Foreign Minister, and while a week ago he could count many partisans, there is scarcely now a single Parisian who does not loudly state that the appointment of a chemist as the head of foreign affairs was a huge mistake. In the *Echo de Paris* M. Edmond Lepelletier relates how he made a trip to Brittany some years ago in the company of Berthelot and Renan. Referring to the former, he says:—"The simplicity of his nature and his utter incapacity in the most ordinary things of life were patent at every turn. His good humour and kind nature rendered him a pleasant companion, but we would not have entrusted him even with the task of ordering a dinner. And yet this inoffensive creature, who rendered himself grotesque in private life, was entrusted with managing the foreign affairs of France." The anecdotes that are told of his recent short official career are amusing. For instance, he is said to suffer from loss of memory, and on several occasions at Cabinet Councils he is reported to have asked to have the sitting postponed in order to enable him to collect his ideas. Another curious trait put down to him was that of taking notes when in conversation with foreign ambassadors. Meanwhile M. Berthelot has quietly returned to his abode at the Institute of France, and he explains that he would never have formed part of the present Government except under great pressure.

**SAD SEQUEL TO A FIRE.**—A serious fire occurred early on Saturday morning, March 29, at Lille, which resulted in the church and hospital of St. Sauveur being destroyed. The conflagration became almost a catastrophe before the flames were extinguished. The ancient church of St. Sauveur was the first to take fire, and the danger of the adjoining hospital was at once apparent, and towards 7 A.M. the left wing began to burn. An almost indescribable scene followed. The two hundred patients became panic-stricken and made superhuman efforts to escape the flames. Those who were convalescent were able to take refuge, half clad, in neighbouring houses. At this juncture the firemen were joined by detachments of soldiers, who did gallant work in aiding the Sisters of Mercy to rescue the hospital patients. After this an effort was made to save the furniture and linen, as well as the drugs and medicines from the hospital pharmacy. The removal of the latter by twenty soldiers led to a particularly sad and tragic incident. Amongst the bottles they had to remove from the dispensary were some bearing no labels, but the contents of which had the appearance of brandy or other spirit. The soldiers helped themselves liberally from these bottles without further ado, but almost immediately afterwards they showed all the symptoms of violent poisoning. They were carried to the Military Hospital, but the surgeons were almost powerless to relieve them, being ignorant of the poison taken and consequently scarcely knowing what antidote to prescribe. Seven of the soldiers died shortly afterwards, while ten of them seem out of danger, and others are still under treatment. It is thought that the soldiers drank tincture of aconite.

## Foreign and Colonial News.

**NEW YORK PHARMACEUTICAL EXAMINATIONS.**—Failures in examinations are almost as high in New York as in London. At the last meeting of the New York State Pharmacy Board out of 120 candidates 51 failed. Seven of those who passed got the Assistants' Certificate only.

**HUMAN VIVISECTION.**—Two medical men at Tarapaca, Chili, recently advertised for a subject who would permit them to try an operation on his body, by which his stomach will be cut open in order to make observations concerning the process of food-digestion. Five thousand dollars were offered as a reward, and 142 candidates offered themselves for the operation, amongst them a noted pugilist, who has been selected by the doctors.

**THE MANUFACTURE OF SUGAR OF LEAD IN GERMANY.**—A new sugar-of-lead factory has just been completed at Silberhutte, in Germany, where acetate of lead is prepared by Bauschlicker's process, of which the factory holds the patent-rights for Germany. The German sugar-of-lead convention have refused to admit the new works into their union, and for that reason the owners have decided for the present to restrict the output to about 50 tons a month.

**WELCOMING THE TSAR AND TSARINA.**—An extraordinary general meeting of members of the "Russian Pharmaceutical Mutual Aid Society" was held at Moscow, on Sunday evening, in the Hall of the "Moscow Nobility Club," to discuss, among other things, the granting of a credit from the Society's funds for "offering salt and bread to Their Majesties on the Day of the Sacred Coronation." The offering of salt and bread is a well-known Russian token of welcome.

**POLITICAL PHARMACY IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE.**—Mr. N. Coaker, of the Iron Apotheek, Jagersfontein, Orange Free State, sends us a large orange-coloured counter-bill, which he distributed during the recent presidential election in his Republic. The bill is in the form of an auctioneer's advertisement, in which Mr. Peter Jeremiah Blignaut (the then acting-President) advertises for sale to the highest bidder "the whole of that valuable property known as the Orange Free State, mostly bounded by the well-known estates of John Bull, Esq., and the northern portion abuts on the magnificent estate of S. J. P. Kruger, Esq., Knight Star of Africa." The handbill also declares that "the residential mansion stands in its own grounds, is built in the tin-pot style, Maxim-proof, and the owner has the right of shooting over the extensive demesnes of the adjoining 'Transvaal Estates,' which are otherwise strictly preserved, besides that of fishing in the deep waters of the same." The other political allusions are too local for reproduction, and the whole winds up with an appeal to "try the Norfolk Howard touch" of the Iron Apotheek.

## Australasian News.

MOST of the following notes are based upon information in the February issue of *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* published at Melbourne. Copies of that journal (price 6d. each) may be had from the publisher, 42 Cannon Street, E.C.

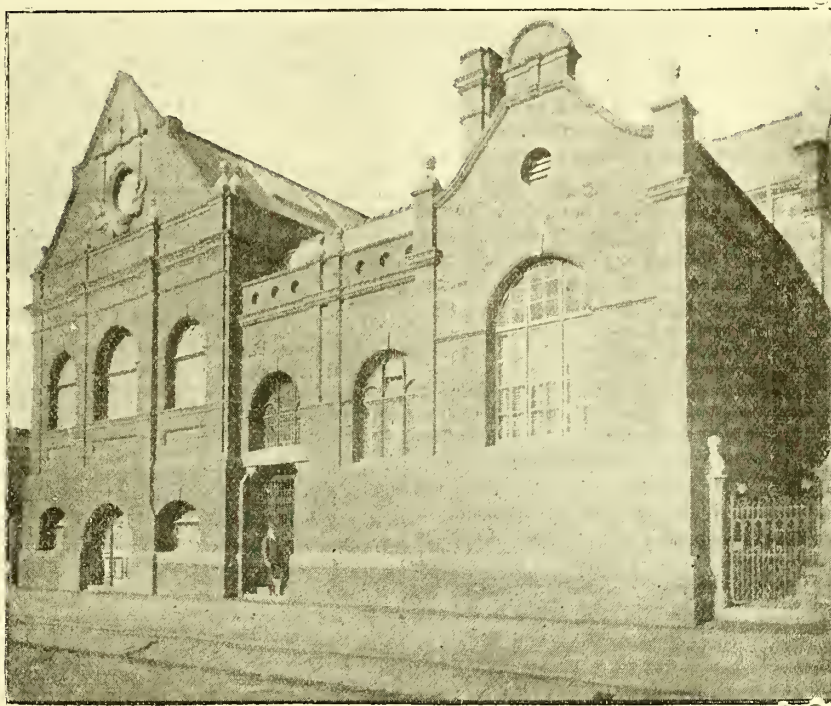
**CUTTING IN TASMANIA.**—A new cutting chemist has started in Hobart, and advertises his store as the "cheapest in Tasmania." The cutter flourishes in the island to a remarkable degree. The grocers have cut down Neave's food to 10½d. per tin, and Benger's to 1s. 6d., Mellin's to 1s. 6d., Allen & Hanburys' to 1s., and the drapers have slashed into perfumes, soaps, and toilet-articles, so that only physic and patents are left to "cut." The new cutting chemist offers Piesse & Lubin's perfumes at 1s. 6d., Pasta Mack at 1s. 6d., and so on, so that, unless, as Paddy would say, "they are to live on the loss," those who depend on this kind of business will have a bad time of it. A meeting of chemists was called, at which all the firms in Hobart were represented, and a letter was drawn up and addressed to the cutter, asking in a polite way whether an entire departure from the price-list was intended or only the disposal of surplus stock. The cutter, in reply, states that his intention is to go his own way and conduct his business as he chooses. It remains to be seen what action will be taken by the leading chemists now, but it is pretty safe to predict that Eno's Salt and other leading lines will be cut down to grocers' prices, and that perfumes will be left to the drapers and cutters.

**A TASMANIAN EUCALYPTUS-OIL DISTILLERY.**—A representative of the *Australian Agriculturist*, who was recently shown over the Tasmanian Eucalyptus Oil Company's distillery, gives an interesting account of the visit in his journal. Mr. H. T. Gould, the company's manager, acted as guide. The company's estate is situated some fifteen miles from Hobart, at Mount Dromedary on the Derwent River, amid splendid scenery. A shed near the distillery was stacked full of leaves—some 30 or 40 tons of them—and everywhere within range of sight the blue-gum trees grew thickly. The eucalyptus-groves on the company's estate



are said to be the largest in Tasmania, and the manager stated that about 40 tons of leaves per week were distilled. He added that, although, as a rule the stills lie idle in winter (the chief distilling season being the spring, when

as a College of Pharmacy, and soon after a grant of 1,000*l.* was made to the College. Owing to the decision that the training of public analysts should be undertaken at the College of Pharmacy, further accommodation was required, and the



the leaves contain a greater percentage of active principle), they were at present obliged to work all the year round in order to keep pace with the demand from London. There are in the building three large circular wrought-iron distilling-tanks, each fitted with a chain-cage by which the spent charge can be removed. The condenser is an iron one of 600 gallons capacity. The process of steaming the leaves occupies four hours, and the oil which comes from the still—a pale straw colour with a slightly greenish tinge—is subjected to re-distillation before being sent to market. The percentage yield of oil from *E. Globulus* is said to be much smaller than that obtained from the leaves of the “mallee-scrub” of the Australian continent.

**THE NEW COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, MELBOURNE.**—The illustration herewith is the first that has yet appeared of the new additions to the Melbourne College of Pharmacy. About ten years ago the old County Court was handed over to the Victorian Pharmaceutical Society at a nominal cost for use

building enlarged as shown in our illustration. The exterior of the building is of unusual style. Architecturally it may be classed as Elizabethan, built of bricks of rich colour, relieved with a bluish brick, technically known as brindled, moulded string-courses, cornices and projections. It is the only building in the city of Melbourne constructed of moulded brick. The roof is of slate, with terra-cotta cresting. Ventilation and light have both been highly praised. The light for the laboratory and lecture-hall is obtained entirely from the roof. The new laboratory is about 70 feet long. At present it is only partially fitted up, but has benches for 23 students, and room for nearly as many more. Each bench is fitted with gas and water, a sink, shelving, and all the reagents in ordinary use. The floor is of solid stone, resting on iron girders, under which is spacious cellarage. Behind the lecture-hall is the old laboratory, which is still in use, and where it is proposed to conduct special work in connection with the training of analytical students. The former lecture-hall, now partly dismantled, is to be the museum.

### The Shops (Early-closing) Bill.

**THE Standard** states that the members who are hostile to the Shops (Early-closing) Bill, in the form in which it has left the Standing Committee, intend to offer a vigorous opposition to the provisions of the measure on report. They will, in the first place, move the recommittal of the Bill; and, failing that, they will propose afresh most of the chief amendments which were defeated in Committee. A special effort will be made to carry an amendment providing that the Bill shall not apply to shops where a mixed business is carried on any branch of which is among the trades scheduled as exempt from the operation of the measure. It is considered that, unless this proposal is adopted, great hardship will be inflicted in certain cases; as, for example, when a shopkeeper who carries on a newspaper business—which is

among the businesses exempted—is compelled to close merely because he combines with it a trade to which the provisions of the Bill apply. An amendment exempting these mixed businesses from the operation of the Bill was only lost in the Standing Committee by the casting vote of the Chairman. An endeavour will also be made to insert a better definition in regard to the classification of shops, and to provide that the “local authority” in London shall be the vestries, and not the County Council.

A meeting of the London Unionist members will be held immediately after the Easter Holidays to consider their action on the report stage of the Bill. A large majority of the London Unionists are believed to be opposed to the measure in its present shape. An active canvass is also to be instituted among country members on the Unionist benches, with the object of ascertaining the general feeling in regard to the leading provisions of the Bill.



## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

### COUNCIL MEETING.

WHEN our representative took his seat at the reporters table he expected what at Westminster would be called "a thin house," and an equally attenuated agenda-paper. Both expectations were falsified. All the councillors turned up—only Mr. Schacht's seat, to the President's left, remaining vacant—and the business proved both interesting and lengthy. Members applauded mildly when the President announced that twenty-five recruits had reinforced the Society's battalions since the last meeting. A dozen hailed from Dundee, where the local secretary has been in a particularly "hustling" mood. "That shows what Scotchmen can do, if they put their shoulder to the wheel," Mr. Carteighe added. The nominations for the fourteen impending Council vacancies were unusually numerous; but of the twenty-four gentlemen whose names had been put down, six—Messrs. Edwd. Gravill, King, N. H. Martin, Nichol, Potter, and Wilson—had not signified their intention of standing. The Finance and Benevolent Fund Committee's reports offered no debatable matter of any interest, but some discussion arose on Dr. Stevenson's report on the examinations in London. That report, truly, gave a sad picture of candidatorial inefficiency. The failures in the Preliminary amounted to 51.8 per cent. of the number of candidates, in the Minor to 78.5 per cent., and in the Major to 55 per cent. Such slaughter was unprecedented in the annals of pharmacy, and the worst of it is that even among those who passed the Preliminary there was a lamentable want of arithmetical knowledge and of Latinity. The President agreed that the report looked black, but he poured out the whole of his disapproval upon the "poor creatures" who cannot get through their Preliminary, and suggested raising the fees after the third or fourth unsuccessful attempt. One unhappy individual, it appears, has been plucked sixteen times on the threshold of the Temple of Pharmacy. Mr. Atkins—*terres atque rotundus*—in a few polished phrases, agreed that it was a sad business, but thought the blame should be laid at the door of the chemist who took apprentices that had not gone through the Preliminary ordeal.

Then came a mildly comic episode in a meeting not otherwise marked by light incident. The Western Chemists Association consider the growing practice of prescribing proprietary articles by medical men a danger to pharmacy. They want it stopped, and they wish the Council to take action. A letter to this effect was read by the Secretary. The President looked inquiringly at Councillor Martindale, who is a prominent member of the W.C.A.A., and Councillor Martindale looked back at the proprietor of Dinneford's with a smile. The letter was referred to the General Purposes Committee. The local secretary of "a very large city," who wishes to remain anonymous, wrote a letter on the professional inequality of the Society's members and associates. He threw out a hint that the chemists in his town bore the Society no love and feel strongly on the equality question.

The Companies Bill is being watched, and an amendment to it will be introduced in the House of Lords—"graced by the presence of so many eminent lawyers," as the President said—where it is expected to receive better consideration than in the mercantile-minded Commons.

The surprise of the meeting was reserved for the end. Professor Dunstan has resigned. He has been appointed Director of Scientific and Technical Research to the Imperial Institute—a post which will give incalculable opportunities for research. The Professor's resignation was received with

regret, and the Council expressed its good wishes for his future well-being in his new sphere. The President's speech to this effect was seconded by Mr. Hampson, and gracefully supported by Messrs. Hills and N. H. Martin. At 1.15 the public business of the meeting was concluded.

The minutes having been approved, the SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. G. F. Schacht acknowledging the receipt of the resolutions adopted by the Council on the occasion of his resignation. "I esteem it the greatest compliment I have ever received," Mr. Schacht wrote, "and though conscious that the terms therein employed are far too laudatory, I accept them gratefully as a measure of the feeling and personal attachment entertained for me by my late colleagues. Though no longer aspiring to the honour of membership of your Council I beg to say I shall continue to feel a very deep interest in its proceedings and in all that concerns the interests of pharmacy." The letter was received with applause.

### COUNCIL CANDIDATES.

No fewer than 27 chemists and druggists were then elected Associates of the Society, the PRESIDENT explaining that this number included 12 from Dundee, an illustration of what the Scotch could do if they put their shoulder to the wheel. Eight gentlemen were elected members and 16 students, while 8 members were restored to the Society.

Proceeding then to the nominations for membership of the of the Council and auditors, the SECRETARY observed that twenty-four names had been received to fill the fourteen vacancies on the Council; eighteen of the nominees had expressed their willingness to accept office if elected. They are the following:—

*Armitage, Nathaniel Newborn*, 114 Tong Road, Armley, Leeds  
*Bateson, Thomas*, Stricklandgate, Kendal  
*Campkin, Algernon Sidney*, 11 Rose Crescent, Cambridge  
*Carteighe, Michael*, 180 New Bond Street, W.  
*Corder, Octavius*, 31 London Street, Norwich  
*Cross, William Gowen, Mardell*, Shrewsbury  
*Gostling, Thomas Preston*, Liden House, Diss  
*Harrison, John*, 33 Bridge Street, Sunderland  
*Hills, Walter*, 225 Oxford Street, W.  
*Johnston, John*, 45 Union Street, Aberdeen  
*Martindale, William*, 10 New Cavendish Street, W.  
*Newsholme, G. T. Wilkinson*, 27 High Street, Sheffield  
*Park, Charles James*, 1 Mully Plain, Plymouth  
*Savory, Arthur Leddam*, 143 New Bond Street, W.  
*Storror, David*, 228 High Street, Kirkcaldy  
*Symes, Charles*, 14 Hardman Street, Liverpool  
*Warren, William*, 24 Russell Street, Covent Garden, W.C.  
*Wills, George Sampson V.*, 92 Croyham Road, South Croydon

The following six nominees have not expressed their willingness to accept office:—

*Gravill, Edward Day*, Jesmond House, Park Grove, Hull  
*King Horatio Alfred*, Exchange Street, Norwich  
*Martin, Nicholas Henry*, Northumberland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne  
*Nicol, Anthony*, 29 Bank Street, Carlisle  
*Potter, Henry Arthur*, 7 Raven Row, E.C.  
*Wilson, Harry*, 146 High Street, Southampton

Those printed in italics do not sit on the present Council.

Five nominations for the auditorship have been received, and in every case the nominees have declared their willingness to serve if elected. The names are as follows:—

*Butt, Edward Northway*, 77 Hamilton Terrace, N.W.  
*Lescher, Frank Harwood*, 60 Bartholomew Close, E.C.  
*Stacey, Samuel Lloyd*, 22 Great St. Helen's E.C.  
*Umney, Charles*, 50 Southwark Street, S.E.  
*Yates, Francis*, 64 Park Street, Southwark, S.E.

### FINANCE.

The report of the Finance Committee was next taken. A good deal of subscription-money had been received. The balance from the previous month amounted to 1,987l. 8s. 5d., and the receipts to 1,305l. 4s. 7d. To meet current liabilities 1,893l. 19s. 5d. was required, 495l. 13s. 7d. of this being for the journal, 135l. 1s. 8d. for rent, 500l. for salaries, &c., 350l. for current expenses, 30l. 1s. 11d. for small items, 7l. 10s. for research laboratory, and 285l. 12s. 11d. to meet the annual bill for printing the register and calendar. The Benevolent Fund receipts amounted to 519l. 4s. 8d.



## BENEVOLENT FUND.

After discussing the various recommendations concerning the Benevolent Fund in committee, it was decided to make one grant of 15*l.*, one of 12*l.*, and three of 10*l.* each. Two applications had been declined, and one was deferred. The PRESIDENT pointed out the somewhat remarkable fact that the five grants were all to widows, while the two refusals applied to the cases of men. One of the successful applicants was a widow of 61, whose husband had been unfortunate enough to insure his life in an office which had failed.

## THE LIBRARY.

The Library Committee's report offered nothing of special interest. The attendance during March had amounted to 489 in the day and 214 in the evening, while the Curator of the museum reported a day attendance of 606, and an evening attendance of 54.

A letter had been received from Dr. Frankler, the Hon. Secretary of the Prague International Pharmaceutical Exhibition, inviting the Society to appoint delegates to the exhibition to be held in that city next September, but the Secretary was instructed to answer with regret that no one could be found prepared to represent the Society on that occasion.

The students at the Square had sent in a petition praying that a room may be assigned to them for conversational and general purposes, an application which was deferred. It was unanimously agreed to increase the Librarian's stipend by 25*l.* a year, Mr. Knapman's discharge of his duties to the Society being referred to in highly complimentary terms by one or two of the members.

## EXAMINATION REPORTS.

Then followed the reading of a letter from the Lords of the Privy Council, enclosing the report of the Government visitor to the Society's examinations, for the information of the Council. Dr. Stevenson's remarks, which are given below, will be seen to be not particularly flattering to the applicants for admission to the ranks of pharmacy.

*Report on the Examinations held by the London Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain during the year ending March 31, 1896.*

To the Lords of the Council.

My Lords,—I have the honour to report for your information that during the year ending March 31, 1896, I have attended twelve examinations of the London Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

## First or Preliminary Examination.

	Numbers.	Percentage.
Candidates examined..	1,468	—
„ who passed ..	708	48.2
„ „ failed ..	760	51.8
Failed in Latin ..	532	34.2
„ English ..	451	30.7
„ arithmetic ..	670	45.6

These statistics show no large variation from those of the preceding year. The examination is an easy one, but as it is not necessary to pass it before commencing pharmaceutical study, it is too commonly put off till the last moment with lamentable results. The weakness in Latin and arithmetic of some of the candidates who even pass this examination manifests itself at the later and more important qualifying examination.

## Minor Examination.

	Numbers.	Percentage.
Candidates examined..	772	—
„ who passed ..	220	28.5
„ „ failed ..	552	71.5
Failed in chemistry ..	305	39.5
„ materia medica ..	42	5.4
„ botany ..	79	10.2
„ prescription ..	34	4.4
„ pharmacy dispensing ..	212	27.5
obtaining aggregate number of marks for a pass ..	60	7.8

The number of candidates who presented themselves for this, the qualifying examination, shows a marked decrease when compared with those who presented themselves during the preceding year (1,002), and the proportion of failures is considerably increased. Of the failures in chemistry, 265 out of the 305 were in practical chemistry—*i.e.*, in laboratory work—assuredly one of the most important portions of the work of the chemist and druggist.

The examination in this work affords the best test of practical knowledge, and cannot be adequately prepared for except by actual work in the laboratory; and in this preparatory study large numbers of candidates show a lack of experience. So long as a course of laboratory instruction is not obligatory, so long will, I fear, these deficiencies be revealed by a large proportion of failures.

Although but few candidates were rejected for inability to read prescriptions, defects in Latin, especially in Latin grammar, are very manifest in the majority of candidates.

The standard demanded at this examination was, in my opinion, a fair one, and the stringency of the practical examination in chemistry is commendable.

## Major Examination.

	Numbers	Percentage
Candidates examined..	120	—
„ who passed ..	54	45.0
„ „ failed ..	66	55.0
Failed in chemistry and physics ..	31	25.3
„ materia medica ..	20	16.7
„ botany ..	14	11.7
„ practical work ..	4	3.3
obtaining aggregate number of marks for a pass ..	17	14.2

There was an appreciable diminution in the numbers presenting themselves for this examination. Only about one-third of those who qualify by passing the Minor examination proceed to the higher diploma of pharmaceutical chemistry. The failures in the scientific subjects of this examination—chemistry, physics, and botany—were greater than in the preceding year.

I am, my Lords,

Your obedient servant,

March 14, 1896.

(Signed) THOS. STEVENSON.

The report applies only to England and Wales. The Scotch Government Inspector, Mr. CARTEIGHE said, appears to send in triennial reports only. The President, commenting upon the report, said that the chief point about it was the striking observations of Dr. Stevenson with regard to the Preliminary examination. That examination, as they all knew, had been a weak spot for many years. Attention had been called to the fact on various occasions, and it might shortly become the duty of the Council to consider the advisability of increasing the standard for these examinations. It appeared that chemists, especially in the country, still continued to take as apprentices those who had not passed the Preliminary examination. A large part of the time of these young men was occupied in getting up a knowledge of Latin, English, and arithmetic, which “these poor creatures” ought to have had before entering upon any vocation. It would be more merciful to those poor fellows if the examination-questions put on the paper were made to look more formidable, as it would deter many who were absolutely incapable from entering upon the career. It might also be considered whether it would be worth while to increase the fees after a second or third unsuccessful attempt. There were grave doubts as to the legality of such a step, but he thought it would be desirable. There were some young fellows now of between 16 and 18 who attempted quarter after quarter to pass the Preliminary without any hope of being successful. A case had come before him a few days ago of a young man of 23 or 24 who had been up for the Preliminary unsuccessfully no fewer than sixteen times. The knowledge required for the Preliminary examination was knowledge expected from a youth at a particular period of his life, and they could not expect to get up the rudiments of Latin after 20. It was decidedly unwise of parents to allow their sons to be article until the Preliminary examination had been passed, and it was morally wrong for any man in business to take as an apprentice one who had not passed that examination.

Mr. ATKINS cordially agreed with the excellent words that had fallen from the President. The poor average educational standard of applicants for the Preliminary was an old story. He would like to know whether there were any legal difficulties in the way of making the Preliminary examination compulsory before apprenticeship; otherwise but little could be accomplished to mend matters. He thought it cruel that so many young fellows should be induced to enter pharmacy without realising what was required from them, and he agreed that it would be desirable to prohibit the signing of indentures until after passing the Preliminary.

Mr. YOUNG spoke in a similar strain; and the PRESIDENT



brought the matter to a close by stating his fear that the apparent simplicity of the examinations attracted people. Of course, if the Society were now beginning *de novo* to draw up examination-rules, the present Preliminary requirements would not be considered satisfactory. The requirements were based upon the educational standard of thirty years ago.

#### PRESCRIBING PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.

The name of Mr. Leonard Gates, of Abingdon Street, Bristol, was restored to the Register, the necessary formalities for the purpose having been fulfilled.

The next business was the reading of several letters by the Secretary. The first was from the Western Chemists' Association of London, drawing attention to a resolution passed by them with regard to prescribing proprietary and patent medicines. The Association is of opinion that the practice is becoming so excessive as to be detrimental to the true interests of pharmacy, and considers it advisable that medical practitioners in their prescriptions should refrain from mentioning any names of proprietors of the preparations prescribed. The letter was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

Mr. Russell, Secretary of the Glasgow Chemists' Association, wrote on the question of the Early Closing Bill. His Association had sent a letter to Sir John Lubbock, a copy of which he enclosed, congratulating him upon the progress of his Bill, and pointing out that the majority of drug-shops in Glasgow are the property of medical men or kept by unregistered people. Unless, therefore, the Bill were made specifically to apply to such shops, he thought injustice would arise to the properly qualified chemist, because the words "chemist and druggist" only covered registered people.

A gentleman, whose name did not transpire, wrote to urge upon the Council to direct the attention of the Home Office to the manner in which the Pharmacy Act was administered in Scotland. He specially referred to the case of the Pharmaceutical Society *v. Steward and Finlayson*, decided in Dundee in October last; to the Edinburgh appeal in the case of Campbell and Hume; and to the Glasgow case against Kerr. The comments made by the Judges in those cases, and penalties inflicted by them, induced the defendants to appeal. Another letter was from the local secretary of a very large city, who complained of the inequality between associates and members of the Society, and urged upon the Council to take steps for its removal. "Pharmacists," the writer said, "would never be a united body until the inequalities existing between them had been removed. If any pharmacist desired to make a mark beyond the ordinary qualifications, let him go outside his profession to secure it. If not, such a man had no right to complain if his despised neighbour left him alone in his glory." Mr. WARREN and Mr. CORDER agreed with these views. The VICE-PRESIDENT suggested that the letter should be referred to the Law and Parliamentary Committee with the recommendation that it should have very careful consideration, and this was agreed to.

#### THE COMPANIES BILL.

The Secretary of the Inverness Chemists' Association wrote to say that he intended to petition the member for his district, Sir R. B. Kinlay, the Solicitor-General, on the subject of the Companies Bill. His Association wished to receive a memorial from the Society setting forth the grievance of pharmacists, and giving a suggestion for their removal. He thought in his district he would be able to get from twenty to thirty signatures to such a memorial.

Mr. CARTEIGHE thought there would be no difficulty to accede to this request, and went on to state that a watch committee of the Council had been appointed, and was in communication with the Government to get amendments introduced in the Bill in the House of Lords. They would move as quickly as possible, but the initial difficulty was to frame a clause which would give pharmacists what they required without fettering legitimate industry. Dr. Samuel Wilks, just elected President of the Royal College of Physicians, would probably give them valuable direct and indirect assistance, for he had expressed himself repeatedly very strongly against unfair company trading.

Mr. HARRISON wanted to know what was to be done with the letter; and

Mr. ATKINS asked whether it was intended to move while the Bill was before the House of Lords, or whether they would wait until it went down to the Commons.

The PRESIDENT: Yes; we shall begin with the Peers.

#### SCHOOL PRIZES.

The report on the school prizes was next taken, and the teachers reported in exceptionally high terms on the assiduousness and intelligence of their pupils, and upon the motion of the PRESIDENT the following awards were given:—

##### PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

Bronze Medal .. .. Geo. Senter  
Certificate of Honour.. .. { John Arthur Dewhurst  
Fr. Underwood Stamp

##### CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS.

Bronze Medal .. .. Geo. Senter  
Certificate of Honour.. .. { Harold Wilson  
Jas. Hamerton

##### BOTANY.

Bronze Medal .. .. John Arthur Dewhurst  
Certificate of Honour.. .. { Fr. Underwood Stamp  
Wm. Neale Ellis

##### MATERIA MEDICA.

Bronze Medal .. .. Geo. Senter  
Certificate of Honour.. .. John Arthur Dewhurst

##### PHARMACY AND PRACTICAL PHARMACY.

Bronze Medal .. .. Harold Wilson

#### RESIGNATION OF PROFESSOR DUNSTAN.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Professor Dunstan announcing that he had accepted the appointment of Director of Scientific and Technical Research to the Imperial Institute, and that on that account he had to offer his resignation with many feelings of regret, modified by the knowledge that during the twenty years in which he had been connected with Bloomsbury Square a large number of improvements had been made in the teaching, "in many of which I have been called to take a prominent part." A momentary silence followed the reading of the letter, and the PRESIDENT then announced that it would be necessary to accept the resignation tendered. During his presidential experience this was the first occasion upon which a professor or lecturer of the Society had resigned. He had suggested to Professor Dunstan that he should consider himself as retaining his office at Bloomsbury Square until October 1, no time having been mentioned in his letter of resignation. He proposed a resolution declaring the appreciation of the Council of the services rendered by Professor Dunstan, and their recognition of the increased efficiency of the scientific and educational work of the Society. Since the foundation of the Society's laboratory, similar laboratories had been started elsewhere on the same lines. Whatever difference of opinion might exist in regard to the character of the work done in their laboratory (some of them, perhaps, considered it of rather too scientific a character), the fact that Professor Dunstan had been asked to take charge of the new laboratory at the Imperial Institute, which would deal with the whole of the vegetable products of the colonies and India, indicated that the authorities believed that he was the right person for this work. The Professor, in his new sphere, could render service to science on a larger scale than would have been possible at Bloomsbury Square. He would have to build up a scientific department, and if he succeeded at the Imperial Institute as well as he had done in their service, they would always look back with pride upon the fact that one of their professors had been the first director of this great Imperial Research Laboratory. He wished Professor Dunstan every success in his new post, both on national and personal grounds.

Mr. HAMPSON seconded the motion; and Mr. W. HILLS, as an unofficial member, also bore testimony to the valuable services rendered by Professor Dunstan.

Mr. N. H. MARTIN joined in congratulating the Institute and Professor Dunstan. He had on occasions been compelled to criticise the work done in the Research Laboratory as not sufficiently pharmacological, but that did not prevent him from cordially appreciating Professor Dunstan's work and wishing him a brilliant future. The motion having been adopted, the proceedings of the meeting closed with the adoption of the resolution to refer Professor Dunstan's resignation to the General Purposes Committee.



## The Winter Session.

### CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

ONE anniversary meeting of the Chemical Society is very much like another, the only point in regard to which individuality may be imported is in the

#### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

Mr. VERNON HARCOURT, who has now filled the chair for a year with conspicuous success, managed to do that on Thursday evening last (March 26). It was exactly 8 o'clock when he rose. Thirty-one years ago he was one of the secretaries of the Society which then met in old Burlington House. The Society had a museum then which contained many curious things, specimens of chemicals which at that time were rare. It was decided to disperse the museum, so the late Mr. John Williams put a price upon the things, and the Fellows bought them. Mr. Harcourt told this in a way that tickled the audience, and when he came to speak of the foundation of the laboratory—which has proved as utter a fiasco as the museum—the Fellows were even more amused. This led up to the work of the present year, during which, the President pointed out, the papers which have proved most interesting were those illustrated by experiments, and he exhorted contributors to follow that course as often as they could. The acetylene theory of flame naturally received attention; but higher honour was paid to Professor Ramsay in connection with his research on helium, and the audience gave its endorsement to the President's encomiums by liberal applause. This review of the work of the session thus entered upon proved to be a sort of confidential talk with the Fellows in respect also to the work of the Council—that body which the Fellows elect every year but have not hitherto heard much about. Mr. Harcourt, however, showed that it does some work, amongst which during the past year was the consideration of a printed circular issued unofficially by some Fellows with the view of having certain candidates blackballed. This sort of conduct the President, speaking on behalf of the Council, condemned. The jubilee memorial volumes, and other literature which Dr. Armstrong has had in hand for several years, were next referred to, and the members were assured that the volumes will be delivered in the course of this year. Reference was also made to the memorial lectures of the past year, and a promise held out that there would be lectures on Lothar Mayer and Pasteur. The jubilee of Lord Kelvin's professoriate at Glasgow is soon to be celebrated, and the Council have deputed Professor Millar Thomson, an old Glasgow student, to represent them on that occasion. The Council have been invited by the Board of Trade to appoint two experts to represent the Society on a commission which is to inquire into the change of the molecular structure of steel, this inquiry following the St. Neot's railway accident. Dr. T. E. Thorpe and Professor Wyndham R. Dunstan have accordingly been appointed. In this way the President, going from topic to topic, struck out a new line at these annual meetings, by confining his remarks to business. Then he went on to tell how many Fellows had died, resigned, and been removed during the year, and how many elected. The roll stands thus:—

March, 1895, number of Fellows .. .. .	1,979
Since elected .. .. .	114
Restored .. .. .	9
	2,102
Died .. .. .	13
Resigned .. .. .	24
Removed .. .. .	47
	84
Total March, 1895 .. .. .	2,018

Amongst the resignations we heard the names of Thomas Greenish and T. B. Groves. The President mentioned the curious fact that twenty-four Life-Fellows cannot be traced. He then spoke of the library and, briefly, on chemical nomenclature, and concluded well within the half-hour.

He was thanked on the motion of Dr. GLADSTONE, seconded by Professor DIXON, of Manchester, and replied.

### THE FINANCES.

In this department the Society seems almost too prosperous, for, beginning the year with 1,630*l.* of cash, it ends with 1,989*l.*, and meanwhile has invested 1,650*l.* Dr. Thorpe is the treasurer. His statement showed the following receipts and expenditure:—

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Fellows' and other subscrip- tions .. .. .	4,493	Producing, &c., the <i>Journal</i> .. .. .	3,182
<i>Journal</i> sales .. .. .	511	General index .. .. .	184
Dividends .. .. .	381	Library .. .. .	306
Income-tax repaid .. .. .	328	Secretarial, &c., expenses .. .. .	449
Balance to credit .. .. .	1,630	House expenses .. .. .	197
	£7,043	Investments, postages, &c. .. .. .	1,736
		Balance .. .. .	989
			£7,043

The Society's investments amount to 13,300*l.*, apart from the Research Fund (5,400*l.*), from which the following grants were made during the year:—June 20, 1895: Grants to Dr. J. Walker, 20*l.*; H. Ingle, 10*l.*; J. J. Hummel and A. G. Perkin, 30*l.*; B. Lean, 10*l.*; Dr. Sudborough, 10*l.*; R. E. Doran, 5*l.*; E. Haworth, 15*l.*; H. Bone, 15*l.* January 8, 1896: C. F. Cross and C. Smith, 10*l.*; F. D. Chattaway, 15*l.*; Dr. Jocelyn F. Thorpe, 20*l.*; Dr. J. E. Marsh, 10*l.*; A. E. Tatton, 10*l.*—altogether, 180*l.* Lord Rayleigh, as the Faraday medalist, received a honorarium of 20*l.*, but he returned it as a donation to the Research Fund.

This report through, there was little else for the meeting to do than pass votes of thanks, which was done in neat and humorous speeches, the best of the latter coming from Mr. David Howard. Then the Fellows indulged in conversation, while Dr. Voelcker and Mr. D. H. Nagel examined the ballot-papers for the election of

#### NEW OFFICERS.

They returned, and reported as follows:—

*President*—A. Vernon Harcourt, M.A., LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.S.

*Vice-Presidents*—Horace T. Brown, F.R.S.; James Dewar, F.R.S.; Francis Robert Japp, M.A., Ph.D., LL.D., F.R.S.; Ludwig Mond, F.R.S.; W. Chandler Roberts-Austen, C.B., F.R.S.; William A. Tilden, F.R.S.

*Secretaries*—J. Millar Thomson; Wyndham R. Dunstan, M.A., F.R.S.

*Foreign Secretary*—Raphael Meldola, F.R.S.

*Treasurer*—T. E. Thorpe, LL.D., F.R.S.

*Ordinary Members of Council*—P. Phillips Bedson, D.Sc.; Bennett Hooper Brough; Bernard Dyer, D.Sc.; Otto Hehner; Herbert McLeod, F.R.S.; H. Forster Morley, M.A.; G. Harris Morris, Ph.D.; James Wyllie Rodger; W. A. Shenstone; Arthur Smithells, B.Sc.; Thomas Stevenson, M.D.; Sydney Young, D.Sc., F.R.S.

The names of new members are in italics.

### CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

A musical and social evening was held on March 26. Mr. E. W. Hill presided. Messrs. Burgess, Latrielle, Pasco, H. H. Robins, A. E. Robins, Summers, Walton, and Williams contributed to the programme, and Mr. E. Eastes accompanied. In the course of the evening Dr. B. H. Paul and Professor H. G. Greenish were proposed as patrons.

We are asked to state that no meeting of the Association will be held on April 9, as Mr. Crouch will be unable to read the paper he had promised for that date.

### PLYMOUTH AND DISTRICT JUNIOR CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

At a well-attended meeting of this Association held on March 26, Mr. H. O. Westcott in the chair, an interesting lecture was given by Mr. ERNEST A. HODGE on opium. The author described the collection of the drug and gave details of its chemistry. Specimens of the many varieties were shown, these having been lent by the curator of the Pharmaceutical Society's museum, and Messrs. Hearon, Squire & Francis. Some comments on the therapeutics of the drug were added. In the discussion which followed the



paper, Mr. C. J. PARK (President) strongly advocated the exhaustion of opium by ether (as the denarcotised opium of the U.S.P.), the nauseous effects of the drug being reduced thereby. Votes of thanks for the lecture and loans of the specimens were passed.

#### MIDLAND PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Council of this Association, Mr. R. D. Gibbs in the chair, the following resolutions were passed:—

That this Council hears with pleasure of the candidature of Mr. Park, of Plymouth, for the Pharmaceutical Society, and promises to support him in every way they can.

That the support of the Council be given to the Shop-hours Bill, for the regulation of the compulsorily closing of chemists' shops at a reasonable time.

#### BRIGHTON JUNIOR ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACY.

At the weekly meeting held on March 25, Mr. T. F. Grindley presiding, Mr. GEO. LONG, who had been announced for a previous meeting, read a paper on "Ancient Eastern Medicine Practice." The author dealt exhaustively with the Egyptian Pharmacopœia and methods as disclosed by the Papyrus Ebers. A discussion followed, when Mr. Long adduced many interesting facts of Egyptian history, proving their high state of civilisation. The contribution was regarded as a very intellectual discourse.

#### SHEFFIELD PHARMACEUTICAL AND CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING of this Society was held in the Society's rooms in Suney Street on Wednesday evening, when, instead of the lecture promised by Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. J. AUSTEN read a paper entitled "The Plants of the Bible." Mr. Austen divided the flora of the Bible into three classes—grasses, herbs yielding seeds, and trees—and gave a most interesting description of the plant-life referred to in both Old and New Testament, pointing out that in all about 100 plants and their products were mentioned in the Bible. The paper was illustrated by a large number of specimens, many of which had been lent for the occasion by Mr. E. M. Holmes, the curator of the Pharmaceutical Museum.

#### LIVERPOOL PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS' SOCIETY.

A MEETING of this Society was held on March 26, Mr. T. S. Wokes, President, in the chair.

#### DISPENSING EXPERIENCES.

Mr. R. H. MITCHELL said that he had lately had a prescription which read:—

Mist. ferri co.	..	..	..	1 pint
Dec. aloes co.	..	..	..	1 "

Two ounces to be taken three times a day. What would be a proper charge? It was thought that 5s. would be reasonable.

Mr. J. WELSH submitted the following prescribing experience:—

Syrup. ferri phosph. co.	..	..	..	3j.
Sp. chlorof.	..	..	..	3ij.
Liq. strychnin.	..	..	..	3ss.
Quin. hydr. chlor.	..	..	..	3ss.
Glyc. pepsin. aci l.	..	..	..	3iss.
Aq. destillat. ad	..	..	..	3viij.

M. Ft. m.

When first dispensed the mixture was quite bright, free from deposit, and the colour of diluted syr. phosph. co. In the course of an hour or so a change in the colour is evident, and after about twenty-four hours have elapsed there is a black deposit, and colour is less marked. Mr. Welsh described numerous experiments he made by omitting certain of the ingredients, and Mr. HAROLD WYATT, jun., thought that the reaction was due to the phosphate of quinine being formed, and the consequent abstraction of a certain amount of the free phosphoric acid from the syrup of ferrous phosphate. This would occasion a precipitate of a greenish-black ferrous

phosphate, probably the black precipitate which Mr. Welsh referred to. The PRESIDENT agreed with Mr. Wyatt's opinion, and said that no doubt the free acid in the glycerine pepsine acid would intensify the reaction.

Mr. C. SHARPE, F.L.S., then gave some delightfully rendered readings from Dickens, in lieu of his paper, "Reminiscences of Bygone Chemists," which he promised to give later on.

#### PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS' AND APOTHECARIES' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND.

At a meeting of this Association, held in the Pharmaceutical Society's house on March 27, a debate was arranged upon the question—"Should infusions be retained in the British Pharmacopœia? Messrs. Alister and Ashton were the speakers appointed argue in the affirmative, and Messrs. Hunt and Payne in the negative.

Mr. ALISTER argued that the active principle extracted by means of infusion was often preferable to other preparations. Infusions are aqueous solutions, and the other preparations contain spirit, which is deleterious in some cases. Besides the spirit, extracts and tinctures also contain colouring-matter, and other substances which the spirit dissolves, and which are insoluble in water. If infusions be retained in the B.P., they should be made fresh when ordered, that they might have a uniform colour, and have that pleasing odour which is characteristic of fresh infusions, and should not be displaced by those made by concentration. In years gone by it was thought that by bottling the infusions and filling up the bottle to overflowing, so that the corking displaced some of the liquid, they would keep for months. In one way they did keep, in that they escaped a decayed odour; at the same time, it was found that in keeping the colour darkened considerably.

Mr. HUNT, L.P.S.L., asserted that the infusions in their present form and numbers were not of sufficient value to warrant their retention in the B.P. Out of the twenty-eight which are official only ten are in everyday request. The remainder are seldom or never prescribed. Martindale, in his "Extra Pharmacopœia," gave a list of preparations which were rarely used, and which he considered might be eliminated from the B.P. Nine infusions figured in that list. In his analysis of 25,000 prescriptions, only four infusions appeared, and the highest number reached by any of them was comparatively a very small one. Certainly more than half of the B.P. infusions might be expunged with advantage. He failed to see what therapeutic advantages infusions possessed over the tinctures of the same drugs except the absence of spirit. Whether this was an advantage or not was a debatable point. The most serious objection to fresh infusions was their liability to decompose. Many of them would not keep for twenty-four hours; fortunately they were rarely prescribed by themselves, but were usually associated with tinctures or other drugs, which exercised a preservative effect. In the United States Pharmacopœia there were only three or four infusions. The principal objections against concentrated infusions are that they do not possess the same colour, aroma, or flavour as the fresh infusion. These objections would have some weight if infusions were usually prescribed by themselves. He thought that preparations of the nature of liquid extracts which could be diluted at will would be more elegant and permanent substitutes.

Mr. ASHE quoted Whittia in support of the retention of infusions. In these days when there is so little left for the pharmacist to do he did not see why they should give an additional benefit to the manufacturers. He agreed that infusions should be freshly made. Dr. Falkiner had told them not to part with old friends, and for an infusion possessing flavour, aroma, and the right taste they need not go beyond a cup of tea. Mr. Ashe spoke at some length on the therapeutic virtues of infusions and of the value of decoctions of digitalis and ergot, and quoted extensively from Martindale.

Mr. PAYNE compared infusions to old pensioners. They had had their day, and were now useless for active service. Medical men nowadays simply prescribed an infusion at the tail end of a prescription to avoid the use of the word "aqua," or, perhaps, to render the mixture more disagreeable to the patient. He admitted infusions were occasionally ordered because they were better absorbed into the system. He advocated as a middle course the keeping of concen-



trated infusions in the B.P., but on general grounds their substitution by tinctures was preferable.

After some further discussion, the CHAIRMAN summed up, and favoured the introduction into the B.P. of standardised concentrated infusions. Every pharmacist ought to be able to make his own concentrated infusions. On a vote being taken, it was found that the question was decided in the negative by a majority of six votes.

#### EDINBURGH DISTRICT CHEMISTS' TRADE ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of this Association was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's House, Edinburgh, on March 26, and was briefly reported by us last week. Mr. Peter Boa, Chairman, presided.

#### THE METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Mr. C. F. HENRY, Secretary, read a letter from the Secretary of the Edinburgh Decimal Association embodying the recommendations in the report of the Select Committee on the subject, which were that Parliament should at once legalise the metric system of weights and measures for all purposes; that after the lapse of two years it should be made compulsory to use these weights and measures for all trade purposes; and that it was desirable that in schools decimals should be taught at an earlier stage in the school curriculum.

Mr. LUNAN said he was prepared to move in favour of the recommendations of the Decimal Association, though he was not at present prepared to memorialise Government in favour of it. The transition period would be full of difficulty, and there would be a great danger of mistakes. For instance, the table of measure-capacity in the metric system did not give anything less than a millilitre, which corresponded to 16 minims. Other metric measures had not an exact equivalent in the measures now in use. He thought it would be a mistake if, in adopting the metric system, they were not allowed to follow the principle of solids by weight and liquids by measure, especially in dispensing. There was no doubt the system was going forward, and its universal application was only a matter of time.

The CHAIRMAN said there did not seem to be much enthusiasm in favour of the change. He thought two years was too short a time in which to make the system compulsory. It would require much longer than that to get into the way of it.

Mr. J. R. HILL was at a loss to understand why these weights and measures should be legal for use in scientific work and not for trade purposes. It would be a simple matter to legalise the use of the stamped weights for any purpose at all, and to appoint inspectors so that the public might not be defrauded. He referred to the disadvantage experienced by wholesale houses in export trade. In pharmacy a knowledge of the system was essential. He was also in favour of the introduction of the decimal system at an earlier stage of the school curriculum. It was a great advantage to be able to think in decimals. The second proposal was too big an order. To make the system compulsory in two years was not practicable. All they required was a short Act legalising the use of these weights and measures for all purposes.

Mr. LUNAN agreed to frame his resolution so as to support the first and third recommendations only.

Mr. DAVID MCLAREN spoke in support of the views stated by Mr. Hill, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

#### THE SHOPS (EARLY-CLOSING) BILL.

Mr. DAVID MCLAREN opened a discussion on this subject. So far as he was concerned, this question was very ancient history. He remembered in 1863 the Druggists' Early-closing Association took this matter up very heartily, and after a number of years they succeeded in getting the drug-shops shut for one night. But on the night following, instead of shutting his own door, So-and-so wondered if So-and-so was shut, and sent his man round the corner to see, and the result was that within a fortnight, with, perhaps, three or four exceptions—certainly with two notable

exceptions—the movement collapsed. These two firms in town were the last to agree to the change, but they were the only firms who had from that time till now carried out the principle of shutting at 8 P.M. This Bill had a sort of grandmotherly character about it, and if they went on they might have an Act of Parliament telling them when to go to bed and when to rise, and when to go to breakfast, dinner, and tea. He objected to the exemption of tobacconists and refreshment places, because in such places young lads and girls were employed, and if there was any part of the community who needed fresh air and rest it was the young. In view of the saving clause the Bill would make no difference to Scotch chemists, though it might to English chemists who sold white-lead and various other things besides medicines and medical appliances. Ultimately he moved a recommendation in support of the principle of the Bill.

Mr. FORRETT seconded the motion.

Mr. HENDRY argued that if they closed at 8 they would be playing into the hands of those with night-bells.

Mr. J. R. HILL was of opinion that the ninth clause was so vague that it practically meant nothing. He could not see that chemists were going to have any benefit at all from the Bill by shortening their hours. The clause was very wide. If a customer came in for ess. bouquet would they supply it? or if someone came in for a tooth-brush would they be challenged for selling it? It was a medical appliance. If a druggist was accused of keeping his shop open after, say, 8 o'clock he might reply that he was making up a prescription.

Mr. FORRETT said it was not necessary to keep their door open to dispense a prescription.

Mr. HILL said that might be Mr. Forrett's opinion; but he was not asked to shut his door. If he was there "for the purpose aforesaid" he was entitled to be so. The clause was so wide and so vague that it was practically inapplicable to the drug-trade so far as shortening the hours was concerned.

Mr. NESBIT said this Bill was not only grandmotherly legislation, but was an interference with the liberty of the subject, and sought to put restraint upon trade. That was quite opposed to the policy of this country, and he was surprised that any House of Commons would for a moment consider it. No one had a right to compel him to shut his shop. He opened at 8 in the morning and closed at 8 at night. Some kept open till 9, but he had no objection. Let them suit themselves and their customers. He was not prepared to submit to such interference, and he proposed that they should petition against the Bill.

Mr. WYLIE said if he thought the Bill affected them he would second Mr. Nesbit's motion, but he did not think it did.

Mr. C. F. HENRY, in order to make the clause more definite, proposed that it should read—

All pharmaceutical chemists, or chemists and druggists, shall close their shops at the hour appointed by an order made under this Act, but they shall not be liable to any fine for supplying medicines, drugs, or medical appliances after said hour should any customer request them to do so.

He thought under such a clause the shop would require to be shut, and that was a matter of importance.

Mr. HENRY argued that the Bill was a justifiable interference with the liberty of the subject.

Mr. R. L. HENDRY seconded Mr. Nesbit's motion.

Mr. BOWMAN asked if there was anything in the Act about doctors supplying drugs.

Mr. HILL said some effort should be made to put in phraseology that would cover the case of drug-shops kept by doctors. He suggested that it should be remitted to a committee to draft a comprehensive clause.

The CHAIRMAN did not think that under the present clause there would be any exemption. It did not matter who the owner was.

Mr. ALLAN (Kirkcaldy) supported the principle of the Bill, and Mr. DONALD MACKENZIE opposed it.

Mr. BURLEY suggested that they should not take any action for or against with regard to the Bill.

Mr. DUNCAN MCGILASHAN thought the ninth clause as it stood was unworkable.

A number of members left before a vote was taken, which showed 8 votes against and 6 for Mr. Nesbit's amendment.



## Legal Reports.

### THE "YORKSHIRE RELISH" APPEAL.

ON Tuesday last Lords Justices Lindley, Kay, and Smith delivered a judgment they had reserved on the arguments addressed to them last month in an appeal by the Birmingham Vinegar Brewery Company (Limited) from a decision of Mr. Justice Stirling, at the suit of Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co., restraining the defendants from selling, as of the plaintiffs' manufacture, sauce not made by them and represented as "Yorkshire Relish," which description his Lordship held to be a fancy word. Lord Justice Lindley, who read his judgment, said:—The plaintiffs do not complain of the infringement of any registered trade-mark. They rely exclusively on their common law right to prevent other people from making and selling goods which can be and are passed off and mistaken for goods made by them under the name "Yorkshire Relish." Before there was any legislation on the subject of trade-marks it was well settled that when anyone adopted a mark so closely resembling the trade-mark of the plaintiff as to be likely to be mistaken for it the plaintiff was entitled to an injunction to restrain the use of such mark. Fraud on the public to the detriment of the plaintiff was the foundation of the right to damages at common law. As long ago as 1833 it was decided in *Millington v. Fox* that intentional deceit was not essential to warrant the Court in granting an injunction. The Court will interfere to protect a plaintiff if ordinary or unwary purchasers are likely to be misled and to mistake the defendant's goods for the plaintiff's. In cases of this description the probability of misleading, not experts or persons who know the real facts, but ordinary or unwary customers, is the mischief to be guarded against. Persons may be misled and may mistake one class of goods for another, although they do not know the names of the makers of either. A person whose name is not known but whose mark is imitated is just as much injured in his trade as if his name were known as well as his mark. His mark sells his goods. A rival who imitates his mark can hardly help deceiving buyers and injuring him; and for such injury, if proved, he can obtain redress. But a trade-mark only confers a right to say, "Do not imitate my mark in connection with goods like mine so that yours may be mistaken for mine." It does not confer any exclusive right to make or sell the kind of goods denoted by the mark. Unless a person has a patent for his goods similar goods may be made and sold by anyone; and they may be better or worse, dearer or cheaper, than those denoted by the mark. Precisely the same principles are applicable to the use of words as to the use of marks for the designation of particular goods. This is shown by such cases as the *Angostura Bitters* case, the *Glenfield Starch* case, the *Stone Ale* case, the *Excelsior White Sift Scap* case, and others. But the exclusive right to the use of words is much more burdensome to other people than the exclusive right to the use of a mark. A person who designs or adopts a mark to denote his goods imposes no unreasonable burden on rivals in trade by forbidding them from using the same mark to denote similar goods, if the public are thereby misled. But to monopolise the use of words imposes a much more serious burden. Consequently, limits have been put to the right to complain of the use of words which have not been put to the right to complain of the use of marks. For example, if a man uses his own name to denote his own goods, it would be intolerable to confer upon him the right to prevent other people of the same name from honestly using their own name to denote their own goods, even although they might be of the same kind as his and be undistinguishable from them. Again, if a person uses words which simply describe the kind of goods he makes or sells—*e.g.*, leather boots—it would be intolerable to confer upon him the right to prevent other persons from honestly using the same words to describe what they make or sell. Although, however, a person by using his own name or a merely descriptive word to denote a particular article cannot prevent other *bona-fide* traders of the same name from using it, or prevent other *bona-fide* traders making or selling the same sort of goods from using the same descriptive word, yet, even in such a case, if the descriptive name is proved to

mean the goods of the plaintiffs, and if deception is also proved, a person may be restrained from using such name or word without taking such steps as will render mistakes unlikely to occur. The *Holloway* case, the *Glenfield Starch*, the *Angostura Bitters*, the *Stone Ale*, and other cases were cited in support of this doctrine, and his Lordship read long extracts from the *Honse of Lords* judgment in the recent case of *Reddaway v. Banham*, where it was held that the plaintiff could not describe his belting as camel-hair belting, although it was made of camels' hair, because in the trade that description had come to mean belting of the plaintiff's manufacture. Again, if a person makes or sells an article and calls it by a particular name, the use of that particular name by others for the same sort of goods is not necessarily an infringement of his rights, even if the name is not obviously descriptive. If the article is a patented article, sold by the patentee under the name in question, then when the patent expires anyone is at liberty to make and sell the article and to sell it under the name by which it has become known in the market; and if nothing more is done the patentee has no redress. So, too, if a person makes an article not patented and gives it a certain name by which the article comes to be known in the market, anyone who can make the same kind of article can call it by the name by which it is known, if he can in fact do so without passing off his goods for those of the original makers. But no case has yet decided that the name of an article, whether patented or unpatented, can be used in such a way as to pass off his goods for those made by another. Another way in which a name originally a good trade-name may lose its character and become *publici juris* is where the first person using the name does not claim the right to prevent others from using it and allows other persons to use it without complaint. The name then comes to denote the article, and nothing more; the name becomes *publici juris*, and anyone who is at liberty to make the article can call it by the name by which it is usually known. No name, however, can become *publici juris* in this way so long as the person originally entitled to the use of the name asserts his rights in that respect. Moreover, it is for those who assert that a trade-name has become *publici juris* to prove it. A more difficult case arises where a man has long been the sole maker of a particular kind of article which he has always called by some name by which his goods are known, by which, in fact, they are usually called by ordinary buyers. A rival trader cannot, of course, adopt the trade name and make up his own articles so as to make them look like or pass for the other's. But if he can avoid doing this, there is no law to prevent him from making and selling goods of the same sort as the other's, nor from calling them by the name by which alone they are known in the market. If it be impossible profitably to use the old name, and at the same time so to distinguish the two classes of goods as to prevent the rival goods from being mistaken for others, what is to be done? Is the name to be protected and rivalry prevented, or is the rival to be at liberty to use the name and destroy the trade of the old trader? Both principle and authority clearly appear to be in favour of the old trader, if he can prove that the name denotes his goods, and that his rival's are in fact mistaken for his. This doctrine, however, is said to lead to this curious result—*viz.*, that an inventor of an unpatented article, to which he gives a name, may be able practically to enjoy a longer monopoly in the name than an inventor of a patented article. But there is nothing anomalous in this. If a man has a secret invention by which he can make an article better or cheaper than other people, he practically has a monopoly in that article until his secret is discovered, or someone else can make a better or cheaper article. There is no limit to the duration of this monopoly. As regards name, when his secret is discovered he is in the same position as a patentee whose patent has expired. In both cases the article can be made and sold under the name by which it is known; but in neither case can such use be made of it as to enable a rival to pass off his goods as those of the original maker. If the use of the name alone renders this unavoidable the name, I apprehend, must not be used. For thirty-five years or more the plaintiffs have made and sold a sauce which they call "Yorkshire Relish." This term does not describe the nature of the sauce; the words convey no information whatever of its make or qualities. "York-



shire Relish" is a non-descriptive trade-name, and it is very important to bear this in mind. The composition of the sauce and the mode of making it are known only to the plaintiffs and their workpeople; perhaps not even to any one workman. "Yorkshire Relish" has always been sold by the plaintiffs in ordinary round glass bottles of three or four sizes, on which blue and red labels have been fastened. The names of the plaintiffs have always been on these labels, and the words "Yorkshire Relish" have been conspicuously printed on the labels in a curve. The words "Yorkshire Relish" are also impressed into the glass of the bottles in which the sauce is sold. The bottles are sold in wrappers of white paper, on which "Yorkshire Relish" is printed in large letters. The plaintiffs' trade in "Yorkshire Relish" is very large, and is said to be very profitable. They have spent some 400,000*l.* during the last thirty years in advertising it, and reached a sale of 6,000,000 bottles a year. They have more than one trade-mark—viz., the label to which I have alluded, and a drawing of an old-fashioned round blue china plate, which is also impressed on the label. Some years ago the plaintiffs registered the words "Yorkshire Relish" as an old trade-mark of their own; but after a long litigation with the defendants these words were expunged from the register on the ground that, although the plaintiffs had long called their sauce by that name, the name alone had not been used by the plaintiffs to denote their goods. The words "Yorkshire Relish" are not, therefore, *per se* a registered trade-mark. But the evidence shows that the name denotes the sauce which the plaintiffs and they alone have hitherto made. Those persons who are in the trade or who read all that is on the labels know that "Yorkshire Relish" is the sauce made by the plaintiffs for which they are famous. At the same time it is true that great numbers of ordinary retail buyers are guided by the words "Yorkshire Relish;" such persons do not attend to anything else on the labels. So long as "Yorkshire Relish" are the conspicuous words an alteration in the label does not attract the attention of the great majority of buyers, or give rise to any suspicion that the sauce with the altered label is not the same or does not come from the same maker as that which they are accustomed to buy or have been told to ask for. The evidence on this point is very strong; so strong that I doubt the possibility of anyone putting sauce in ordinary round glass sauce-bottles with "Yorkshire Relish" conspicuous upon them without misleading the public and seriously injuring the plaintiffs. What might happen if a rival maker of "Yorkshire Relish" sold it in bottles unlike ordinary glass sauce-bottles, or in some other vessel wholly unlike the bottles used by the plaintiffs, or at prices so dissimilar as to attract attention, there is no evidence to show. Perhaps it would not be worth anybody's while to attempt to create a trade in "Yorkshire Relish" under such conditions. The defendants having succeeded in removing from the register the words "Yorkshire Relish" as a separate trade-mark, determined to try and make a sauce like "Yorkshire Relish" and to sell it under that name. They succeeded in making a sauce so like in appearance, taste, and smell to the plaintiffs' sauce that it is difficult to distinguish the one from the other. But the sauce made by the defendants is not the same as that sold by the plaintiffs; it is not made from their recipe; and it is not in all respects like the plaintiffs' sauce. The defendants have taken care not to imitate the plaintiffs' label nor their trade-mark of a plate. Moreover, the defendants print their own names in conspicuous letters on their own label, and they now sell their own sauce in pink, and not white, wrappers. They have a round gilt disc instead of a round blue plate. In short, when both the plaintiffs' and the defendants' sauces are looked at as they are sold the differences between the two are apparent enough to anyone whose attention is drawn to them. But the resemblances are as conspicuous as the differences. The round disc used by the defendants is a substitute for the plaintiffs' round plate. The bottles themselves are alike in shape, size, and appearance, and the words "Yorkshire Relish" are impressed into the glass. The prices at which the defendants sell to grocers are lower than the plaintiffs' price; but the price paid by the customers to retail grocers is the same—viz., 4½*d.* for the small bottles. But, above all, the words "Yorkshire Relish" are as conspicuous on the defendants' bottles as on the plaintiffs'. The consequence is that, notwithstanding the differences to which I have alluded, the

evidence proves that the defendants' sauce can be, and in fact is, easily mistaken by ordinary buyers for the sauce which the plaintiffs make and sell under the name of "Yorkshire Relish." I cannot, therefore, say that the differences between the bottles as sold are sufficient to prevent mistakes. They do not. The defendants say that they do not want to pass their goods off for the plaintiffs'; but they do, in fact, cause them to be so passed off, and, although I have no doubt the defendants do not want to transgress the law, yet they do want to trade on a reputation which does not belong to them and which has been earned by and belongs to the plaintiffs. This is, to say the least, very unfair. It follows from what I have said in the earlier part of the judgment that the plaintiffs are entitled to be protected from what the defendants are doing. Mr. Justice Stirling has so decided, and has granted an injunction which is, in effect, an injunction not to restrain the defendants from selling their sauce as "Yorkshire Relish" without any qualification, but to restrain them from doing so without better distinguishing their sauce from the sauce made and sold by the plaintiffs. For the reasons I have already given, my opinion is that the judgment appealed from is right, and that the appeal must be dismissed with costs. I do not shrink from the conclusion that the defendants may find it practically impossible profitably to compete with the plaintiffs in their trade. I do not see the injustice of such a conclusion, nor do I see that the public will greatly, if at all, suffer by it. After all, the defendants' sauce is not what has hitherto been known as "Yorkshire Relish," although the defendants do all they think they safely can to lead people to suppose it is. The defendants can make and sell their sauce as much as they please; they may even sell it under the name of "Yorkshire Relish," if they can do so without misleading buyers and so injuring the plaintiffs. If that is done the plaintiffs may lose their trade, but no right of theirs will be infringed. But if it is impossible to comply with such conditions and yet profitably compete with the plaintiffs (as probably it is) the defendants must drop the name. The defendants have had full warning of the difficulties in their way, and of the risk they would run if they attempted to do what they have in fact done. They have deliberately tried an experiment, and it has failed.

Lord Justice Kay said he concurred, on the grounds indicated by his colleague. It had been shown, he remarked, that defendants' sauce so closely resembled plaintiffs' in appearance, in chemical ingredients, and in flavour that one of the experts described it as a wonderful match. He regarded also as a feature in the case that defendants sold their sauce at a less price per dozen than that of the plaintiffs, and that some grocers sold the two at precisely the same price, so that there was a direct inducement to buy the defendants' sauce and pass it off as the plaintiffs'. Defendants' counsel did not deny that their aim was to obtain a share of the sale in "Yorkshire Relish." This could only be attained by selling something the public would believe to be the plaintiffs' sauce, and he consequently thought the defendants should be restrained.

Lord Justice Smith expressed his agreement with these views, and the appeal was dismissed, with costs.

#### COUNTY COURT CASES.

##### SHEFFIELD DRUG-DEALER'S BILL OF SALE.

AT the Sheffield County Court on March 26, an interpleader action was heard in which Messrs. Lofthouse & Saltmer, wholesale druggists, of Hull, claimed the stock-in-trade and goods of John William Sales, drug-dealer, of Gower Street, Sheffield, under a bill of sale. Messrs. Lofthouse & Saltmer put in force the bill of sale in opposition to the claim of an execution creditor, and the case was adjourned to ascertain the value of the goods acquired since the bill of sale was executed. Mr. C. W. Robinson, who appeared for claimants, contended that whatever had been purchased since the bill of sale was given had become mixed with the other goods, was inseparable, and formed part of the bill of sale. His Honour Judge Ellison thought this was not so. The debtor, Mr. Sales, in reply to Mr. Robinson, said he had bought about 3*l.* worth of goods since the bill of sale was given. In answer to Mr. Neal, who represented the execution creditor, he said he did not think they would amount to more, because he



had to pay cash and could not afford to give his orders. He kept no accounts, but put the stuff into bottles as it was brought in. Mr. Neal: And without the consent of your bill of sale holders you have been changing the stock in the ordinary course of business. Mr. Sells: I was bound to run out of something.

His Honour remarked that the bill of sale holders could not establish their case. He could not find that the goods claimed were the goods of the bill of sale holders, the stock having been changed.

Mr. Robinson replied that it was only to a small extent.

His Honour said he could not find to whom the goods belonged. What he could do by way of justice was to find that certain goods did belong to the execution creditor amounting to the judgment debt and costs, and that the remainder belonged to the other party.

Mr. Neal said that was all he wanted, and he added that it was impossible to have a bill of sale on stock in these days, and that fact had been well recognised since the Amendment Act of 1882. Judgment was given for the execution creditor, each party to pay their own costs.

#### AN ANALYST'S CONTRIBUTIONS.

In the City of London Court on Friday, before Mr. Assistant-Registrar Tattershall, the case of *Hammond v. Sanford* was heard. The plaintiffs, Hammond & Co. (Limited), 103 Moor Street, Birmingham, as proprietors of the *Export Trade Review*, sued Mr. Percy G. Sanford, analytical chemist, 20 Callum Street, E.C., to recover the sum of 6*l* for advertisements inserted. The defendant made a cross claim for 12*l* 15*s* for original articles and contributions to the *Export Trade Review* which were written and supplied by him. The plaintiffs' claim was admitted, but the defendant's cross-claim was strongly contested by the plaintiffs. The contributions consisted of an article on "Alloys," of two and a half pages at two guineas a page, and an article on "Dynamite, and its Manufacture," two and a quarter pages, and other literary matter. The defendant said he was engaged to do the work by Mr. T. S. Jones, plaintiffs' editor, London agent, and publisher, who had fixed the rate of his remuneration. The plaintiffs denied that Jones had any authority to make such an engagement on their behalf, and said that the defendant's claim was against Jones, if anyone. The Assistant-Registrar, after reading the correspondence, said he must give judgment for the plaintiffs on both claim and cross action, with costs.

#### CARBONATE AND BICARBONATE.

In the City of London Court on Monday, before Mr. Registrar Wild, R. W. Greeff & Co., drysalers, 3 Eastcheap, E.C., sought to recover 4*l* 15*s* for carbonate of soda supplied to Greenberg & Sons, 3 Manchester Avenue, E.C. The plaintiffs' case was that in December, 1894, they supplied the defendants with one ton of carbonate of soda at 4*l* 10*s*, after having sent them a sample. The defendants stipulated that the carbonate of soda was to be the same as the sample, and it was to be delivered to the Wilson's Food Company, Boston, Lincolnshire. The goods were duly delivered, but the plaintiffs had been unable to obtain payment. The defendants' contention was that the carbonate of soda sent was not what was ordered. They made a complaint to the plaintiffs soon after the goods had been delivered, and sent them a sample of the bulk. They traded as the Wilson's Food Company, and they bought the goods for their own purposes. What they ordered from the plaintiffs was bicarbonate of soda, and not carbonate of soda. The plaintiffs sent carbonate of soda with certain descriptions which they (defendants) did not understand. Since the delivery the plaintiffs had written to say that they would probably be able to relieve them of the carbonate of soda and that they were sorry the defendants were unable to use the goods. Mr. Registrar Wild said he was afraid he could not help the defendants. The letter simply showed that the plaintiffs had supplied the defendants with something that they could not use in their business. The defendants pointed out, in reply, that they had not received what was offered. The carbonate of soda was not up to sample. Mr. Registrar Wild said that all the plaintiffs had done had been to console with the defendants at receiving goods which could not be used in their business. If the

defendants required a specific kind of carbonate of soda they should have said so at the time they gave the order. That they did not do, and there was no reason why the plaintiffs should not now be paid for the goods which they had supplied. Judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs.

#### SALE OF POISONED WHEAT.

At the Beccles Police Court on March 27, Samuel Bullen (not a registered chemist) was summoned by the police for selling poisoned wheat on March 6. James Phillippo, a police-constable, deposed to buying a packet of poisoned wheat from the defendant. He handed it to Superintendent E. C. Shipp, of Lowestoft. Mr. James Napier, of Ipswich, the county analyst, proved that the wheat contained strychnine. Four previous convictions were proved, and defendant was fined 5*l*., and 2*l* 3*s* 8*d*. costs; fourteen days allowed for payment. Proceedings were taken in consequence of complaints made from Carlton, Colville, Lowestoft, and the neighbourhood of Beccles, all agreeing that the poison was purchased at Beccles.

### Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* JOS. HALL, late Wellington, Salop, Chemist.

A PRIVATE meeting of creditors was held herein recently, when the following statement of affairs was submitted:—Liabilities to trade creditors, 567*l* 18*s* 4*d*.; to cash creditors, 1,023*l* 11*s* 5*d*.; to creditor holding security, 100*l*. (estimated value of security, 100*l*.); total, 1,591*l* 9*s* 9*d*.; and assets, consisting of goods supplied, 40*l* 18*s* 5*d*.; cash lent, 130*l*.; share for 1*l* in the Chemists' Mineral-water Association, valued at 1*l* 5*s*.; cash at bank, 272*l* 16*s*.; making 444*l* 19*s* 5*d*. The following creditors are interested:—

	£	s.	d.
Adams, R. & T. J., Birmingham .. ..	11	13	11
Chemists' Mineral-water Association, Bristol ..	28	0	6
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool .. ..	60	18	9
Edwards, B., Birmingham .. ..	360	0	0
France, Hayhurst H. H., Wellington .. ..	333	0	0
Hearon, Squire & Francis, London .. ..	33	10	0
Jewsbury & Brown .. ..	16	2	5
Lamb, Mrs. S., Bristol .. ..	75	18	9
Langton, Edden & Co., London .. ..	32	8	5
Maw, S., Son & Thompson, London .. ..	32	11	7
Payne, Geo., Shrewsbury .. ..	55	0	0
Sutton, W., & Co., London .. ..	205	1	0
Southall Brothers & Barclay, Birmingham ..	16	1	3
Taylor, Miss, Wellington .. ..	100	0	0
Yeatley, A., Bromsgrove .. ..	100	0	0
Secured creditor .. ..	100	0	0

*Re* ALBERT HODGES, 171 Wardour Street, W., trading as the Link Shell Truss Company.

THIS bankrupt, described as A. Link, failed in April, 1895, and on March 27 he applied at the London Bankruptcy Court for an order of discharge. Mr. Hough, Official Receiver, reported that the admitted proofs amounted to 1,139*l* 9*s* 7*d*., and the total ranking liabilities to about 1,440*l*., whilst the assets had realised 21*l* 15*s*.; that the bankrupt for three or four years prior to February, 1888, carried on business as a truss-manufacturer under the style of Hodges & Co., first at 18 James Street, Oxford Street, and afterwards at 327 Oxford Street. In February, 1888, he was convicted and sentenced to penal servitude for having obtained goods under false pretences. His business was sold under the direction of the police authorities, and debts amounting to 200*l*. or 300*l*. were paid. On his release in 1894 the bankrupt received about 70*l*. from the police, with which and other money received from relatives he resumed business at 171 Wardour Street, where he traded as the Link Shell Truss Company until the failure. Most of this business consisted of manufacturing, and endeavouring to sell, a truss called the link-shell truss, which the bankrupt alleged was made according to an improved pattern or design invented by himself, and in respect of which he had applied for a patent. He attributed his failure to liabilities incurred in



advertising the truss. The advertisements were given by the bankrupt in the name of A. Link, a name assumed for the purposes of the business, and the bankrupt in the advertisements styled himself Dr. Link, a title to which he had no right. As offences the Official Receiver reported (1) insufficient assets to equal 10s. in the pound on the unsecured debts; (2) imperfect books; (3) trading with knowledge of insolvency; and (4) rash and hazardous speculation. Mr. Registrar Brougham upheld the report, remarking that the trading with knowledge of insolvency was the most serious matter. He did not think the advertising of the truss could be deemed very rash and hazardous, although it probably partook of the nature of a speculation. The discharge was suspended for three years.

**Re THOMAS MCALPINE**, Doctor of Natural Science, 70 New Sneddon, Paisley, Chemical Manufacturer, trading as the Espedair Chemical Company.

THIS debtor was examined at Paisley, on March 26, before Sheriff Cowan. He deposed that he had carried on business as a chemical manufacturer since 1887. He had at first a capital of 200l. or 300l. In 1892 he paid a composition of 1s. 3d. in the pound. He resumed business after that, a Glasgow firm purchasing machinery, &c., but on entering into the manufacture of hematine the business was again unprofitable. Up till August, 1895, he kept no proper books. His liabilities amounted to about 300l. exclusive of one creditor's claim, and his assets consisted of certain stock and plant, of which he had not prepared a statement. Acids to the value of 40l., unpaid, he pledged to a Glasgow firm, getting 75 per cent., while in an impecunious state. Asked what reason he could give for pledging another man's goods in that manner he said he had none. He was being driven demented by the said Glasgow firm, who were closely connected with his business. He pledged a microscope valued at 80l. for 5l. to the same firm. He was requiring the money at the time, but the instrument was to be redeemed on payment of the amount.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Andrews & Co.** (Elijah Andrew Brunton). Wellhouse Street and 12 Forrest Street, Burnley, wholesale drysalters and confectioners. Trustee, Frederick A. Hargreaves, 7 Grimshaw Street, Burnley, chartered accountant, and another. Dated, March 21; filed, March 27. Liabilities unsecured, 927l. 15s. 7d.; estimated net assets, 577l. 2s. 5d. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Ashton Kellet, Chorley .. .. .	18	0	0
Barrett, G. O., & Co., London .. ..	15	0	0
Bate, T., & Co., Liverpool .. .. .	20	0	0
Birmingham Vinegar Company, Birmingham ..	14	0	0
Boston Cigar Company, Boston .. ..	11	0	0
Cambrian Vinegar Company, Leeds .. ..	17	0	0
Dexter, R. J., & Co., Nottingham .. ..	31	0	0
Dixon, R., & Co., Rochdale .. .. .	13	0	0
Ellis & Co., Liverpool .. .. .	13	0	0
Fryer, T., & Co., Nelson .. .. .	13	0	0
Green, A. B., & Co., Liverpool .. ..	15	0	0
Harris & Thompson, Liverpool .. ..	18	0	0
Keane, J. H., Liverpool .. .. .	11	0	0
Lloyd, Watkin & Bell, Liverpool .. ..	12	0	0
Maynard Brothers, London .. .. .	17	0	0
Ratcliffe, G., Leeds .. .. .	20	0	0
Riley, T., & Co., Nottingham .. ..	23	0	0
Smith & Co., Burnley .. .. .	24	0	0
Smith, J. W., Bradford .. .. .	13	0	0
Speck, J., & Co., Leeds .. .. .	12	0	0
Twigg & Butters, Liverpool .. ..	15	0	0
Wills, W. D. & H. O., Bristol .. ..	44	0	0
Wolf, Rudolph, Bradford .. .. .	162	0	0
Bankers' claims .. .. .	43	0	0

**Parkinson, Joseph, jun.**, 94 High Street, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, chemist. Trustee, James Hy. Stephens, 5, 7, and 8 Clement's Lane, London, chartered accountant. Dated, March 28; filed, March 30. Preferential creditors, 29l. 18s.; liabilities unsecured, 385l. 15s. 7d.; estimated net assets, 243l. 16s. 11d. Assignment to secure the payment of debts in full by four equal instalments at three, six, nine, and

twelve months from March 1, 1896 (one creditor for 50l. postponing his claim). The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Barron, Harveys & Co., London .. ..	35	0	
Cole, George, West Cowes .. .. .	10	0	
Ford, Shapland & Co., London .. ..	12	0	0
Longman, —, West Cowes .. .. .	200	0	0
Parkinson, J., Preston .. .. .	50	0	0

## Gazette.

### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

**Ferguson, W., and Osborne, J.**, medical and chemists' transfer agents and valuers, Cheapside, E.C., under the style of Ferguson & Osborne.

**Francis, T., and Jolly, S. A.**, physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, and accoucheurs, Acton, under the style of Messrs. Francis & Jolly.

**Wintle, H., and Arnold, E. C.**, physicians and surgeons, Forest Hill, under the style of Doctors Wintle & Arnold.

### THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Palmer, James Edwin**, Peterborough, dental surgeon.

#### ADJUDICATION.

**Bailey, Spencer**, Oldham, out of business, formerly veterinary surgeon.

## Business Changes.

**Messrs Fox & Sons**, chemists, of 109 and 111 Bethnal Green Road, London, E., have opened a branch establishment at 222 Hoe Street, Walthamstow.

**MR. ARTHUR G. DOBLE**, chemist and druggist, of Wimborne, has sold his business to Mr. T. J. Addis, chemist and druggist, from Bath. Mr. Doble is going to South Africa.

**Messrs. TAYLOR, TAYLOR & HOBSON**, scientific-instrument makers, of Leicester, have removed their London offices from Southampton Street to Faraday House, 8 and 10 Charing Cross Road.

**Messrs NURTHEN & Co.**, 390 Strand, London, W.C., pharmaceutical chemists, are fitting up a branch establishment at 1 Victoria Terrace, High Road, Nottingham, near Eltham, S.E.

**MR. R. T. JENNINGS**, pharmaceutical chemist (not Mr. P. T. Jenkins, as previously stated), has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. J. A. Day at 1 Albion Terrace, Wandsworth Road, S.W.

**MR. C. H. HEWITT**, who a short time since sold his business in St. Philip's Road, Sheffield, to Mr. Highfield, has now purchased his father's branch-business at Heeley, which he had carried on very successfully for fourteen years.

THE business of the late Mr. William Brown, at 43 Howick Street, Monkwearmouth, has been sold, together with the freehold premises, to Mr. Joseph Roberts, chemist, of Roberts's, Colonial Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Church Street, Blaydon.

AS OTHERS SEE US—English law, like English habits, frequently seem out of gear to us, says the New York Editor of *Mere's Report*. Not long ago a pharmacist was fined for selling "soda-water" because there was no "soda" in it. The judge evidently did not believe in the evolution of names. Later on, another judge fined a chemist because he claimed to be a chemist. Had he been merely a licensed seller of chemicals and no chemist, he would have gone scot free. Within a few weeks a registered "chemist," who is not a chemist in fact, yet one before the law, was fined for selling a better seidlitz powder than the Pharmacopœia demands. Those of the British Pharmacopœia being too weak for his customers, he had added more of the official ingredients and called them "Hygienic Seidlitz Powders." The chemist who analysed them (who is not a "chemist" in England) testified that all the ingredients were pure. There was no evidence to show that any one had ever been injured by them.



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### MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

"THE medical profession," said Mr. Justice Hawkins in the Kitson v. Playfair case, "may no doubt discuss among themselves rules for their own guidance; but they have no power to impose the rules they make upon the public." It ought



not to be necessary for a judge to state such a truism as that, but we are not sure that medical men quite realise that their codes, their wishes, and even their prejudices, have not exactly the force of statute-law. Many of them, like the London coroner whose speech we reported last week, have adopted the belief that there is a law somewhere which prohibits anybody from prescribing or advising on medical subjects. It seems to them so absolutely reasonable that this should be the case, that they cannot believe it is not so. It is curious to note, too, the sublime persistence with which they cling to their belief in their own superhuman morality. The Ten Commandments are not enough for them. They have supplemented these with a jumble of other regulations, a few of which have an ethical basis, while the majority are merely manifestations of trade-union policy. They must not advertise, they must not consult with a homœopath, they must not take less than a guinea for a consultation, they must not recognise a secret remedy—these are among the rules which govern their own conduct: the public is under a much severer control. The patient who surreptitiously consults another medical man while he is under his regular doctor's treatment is as criminal as the one who asks for a detailed statement of his medical attendant's account; while any poor wretch who may have bought a powder from a chemist for her baby before she called in the doctor is liable to a reprimand from a coroner—if this official should be a medical man. The practitioners at the bottom of the profession, who find it none too easy to get a shilling for medicine and advice, and never dream of the guinea, are only lightly bound by the chains of medical etiquette; and it appears that gentlemen at the very head of the profession are not bound by them at all. The two baronets called by Dr. Playfair were quite clear that he or they might disregard the claims of a patient to have his or her secrets regarded as confidential whenever it shall seem to them necessary to disregard that confidence. It is this unctuous pharisaism which always stiffens the back of a British jury, and we wonder that shrewd counsel should advise their clients to ever call witnesses to prove the etiquette of the medical profession. Such experts more often than not give the case away. In a case reported a few weeks ago the editor of the *British Medical Journal* lost a libel action, and had to pay 150*l.* damages, and, no doubt, heavy costs, and it is generally believed that this result was largely due to the amazingly cool assumption of his own chief witness. The editor had stated that the plaintiff in the case had disparaged the honourable traditions of the medical faculty, had contravened the well-understood rule of medical practice, and was justly subject to medical reprobation. His heinous offence had been that he allowed his name and qualifications to appear on the prospectus of a hydropathic establishment and on a brass plate at that institution. Sir Dyce Duckworth endorsed the editor's strictures. Shown his own name and qualifications and private address on the prospectus of an insurance company, he denied that that proceeding amounted to advertising or was censurable. A member of the British Medical Association, writing to the *Medical Press* last week, says the bold baronet had a 100*l.* fee for this precious evidence, and that 500*l.* in all was divided among the witnesses for the defence. This may or may not be true, but it does not need a lawyer to see that such testimony must have been very costly, even if it cost nothing. And the climax of the joke appeared when the high-minded editor himself, the responsible author of the denunciatory paragraph, immediately after the verdict, sent a couple of guineas to the *Times* that the world might be informed he was gone on a yachting trip for the benefit of his health.

## ANTITOXIN ON ITS TRIAL.

A VALUABLE report has just been published on the use of antitoxin in the treatment of diphtheria at the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. It contains the results obtained at six hospitals, and bears the signatures of all the medical superintendents of those hospitals. There is, in addition to the main report, a supplementary one, containing particulars of the results obtained with antitoxin at the Northern Convalescent Hospital in post-scarlatinal diphtheria. The serum used in the experiments was partly that prepared by the British Institute of Preventive Medicine, partly that supplied from the laboratories of the R.C.P.S. Both serums it is stated, yielded identical results, and these, on the whole, were extremely satisfactory. The total number of cases treated with antitoxin was 2,182, of which 615 (28.1 per cent.) terminated fatally. Only in the severer cases, with certain exceptions, was antitoxin given. Altogether the antitoxin treatment was applied in rather more than three-fifths of the cases admitted, and in a still greater proportion of the severer cases—mostly those of children under fifteen. A comparison of the figures of cases treated without antitoxin during the first ten months of 1894 and with the new remedy during the whole of the year 1895 gives the following results:—

Year						Cases	Deaths	Mortality per cent.
1894	..	..	..	..	..	3,042	902	29.6
1895	..	..	..	..	..	3,529	796	22.5

The mortality during 1894 (the year before the antitoxin treatment was commenced systematically) was the lowest on record, and it therefore appears that the gross result of the use of antitoxin has been a reduction in the mortality of 7.1 per cent. This may fairly be credited to the use of antitoxin; but the signatories of the report insist that it does not fairly represent the full benefits which may accrue from the use of the drug, inasmuch as many cases were not brought to the hospitals until the fourth or fifth days of the malady, and the results obtained show that, where antitoxin is administered in the initial stages of the disease, its efficacy is many times greater than when it is applied at a more advanced stage. The general conclusion arrived at is that, in the six hospitals referred to, 250 lives have been saved that would have been lost but for antitoxin. An analysis of the mortality at different ages gives the following striking results:—

### Mortality per Cent.

Year		Under 5	Under 10	Under 15	Over 15	All ages
1894	..	47.4	37.2	33.6	5.7	29.6
1895	..	34.2	27.3	24.7	4.4	22.5
Difference ..		13.2	9.9	8.9	1.3	7.1

By far the larger proportion of cases treated with antitoxin were those of children under fifteen, and the figures, therefore, go to show that it is specially in the cases of young patients (in whom the disease generally shows itself in the most aggravated form) that antitoxin produces the most valuable results. Another important feature of the antitoxin treatment is its efficacy when applied to the disease in its earliest stages, as the following statistics show:—



*Day of Disease.*

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th and later
1894 .. ..	22.5	27.0	29.4	31.6	30.8
1895 .. ..	11.7	12.5	22.0	25.1	27.1
Difference ..	10.8	14.5	7.4	6.5	3.7

These figures relate to the whole of the cases treated in each case, and a comparison of 1894 with the antitoxin cases only of 1895 shows much more favourable figures still for the antitoxin treatment. In tracheotomy cases particularly favourable results were obtained, the mortality of 70.4 per cent. in 1894 having been reduced to 49.3 per cent. in 1895. "Rather more than 50 per cent. of the children on whom the operation has been performed," says the report, have been saved by the employment of antitoxin in tracheotomy. In laryngeal cases the results are also very favourable, the mortality in these instances having been 62 per cent. in 1894 and 41.8 per cent. in 1895. The general conclusion at which the report arrives is as follows:—"We are further of the opinion that in antitoxin serum we possess a remedy of distinctly greater value in the treatment of diphtheria than any other with which we are acquainted." There is, however, some drawback in the use of the remedy, and that lies in the increase of complications and ill effects caused by it. Thus it was found that albuminuria following the disease increased from 24.1 per cent. in 1894 to 41.5 per cent. in 1895, and paralysis from 13.2 per cent. to 20.7 per cent. There were also increases, though somewhat insignificant, in nephritis and lobar and lobular pneumonia. It is only fair, however, to state that in regard to nephritis the signatories of the report arrived at the conclusion that the increase does not warrant the belief that antitoxin frequently leads to renal inflammation. The supplementary report, relating to the post-scarlatinal cases at the Northern Convalescent Hospital, are particularly favourable for the antitoxin treatment. The average mortality for the four years preceding 1895 in that hospital had been no less than 61.9 per cent., but in 1895 it fell to 3.3 per cent., or, if only the severe cases treated with antitoxin be reckoned, to 7.5 per cent. "Our present knowledge with regard to the dosage," the report observes, "is still mainly empirical, but we think that the best results may be obtained by giving a dose of 1,000 Behring's immunisation-units every twelve hours for the first twenty-four, thirty-six, or forty-eight hours, according to the gravity of the case." The serum now used in the hospitals is reckoned according to immunisation strength, which is considered a much more reliable method of regulating the dosage than the old one, which only took volume into account. The average dose administered varied from 14.7 to 25 c.c., the average number of injections from 1.3 to 4.2, and the average amount given to each patient from 23.3 to 67.6 c.c., according to the hospitals. It was found that in the South-Western Hospital, in which the average amount given amounted to 67.6 c.c., the mortality was reduced by 7.4 per cent. as compared with 1894; in the Western Hospital, where the average dose was 44.5 c.c., there was a reduction of 16.3 per cent.; in the South-Eastern Hospital (average dose 41.1 c.c.) of 8 per cent.; in the Eastern Hospital (average dose 32.7 c.c.) of 4.5 per cent.; and in the North-Western Hospital, where the average dose was smallest—viz., 23.3 c.c.—the mortality reduction only amounted to 2.4 per cent.

## THE APOTHEKER ABROAD.

A WRITER in the *Apotheker-Zeitung* calls attention to the remarkable increase in the exports of chemical manufactures from Germany. In 1872, the year after the Franco-German war, the total declared exports of goods of this kind from Germany was 160,300 tons, of a value of 800,400m. (40,200L.). In the two following years the figures showed a considerable decrease, but this was soon made good, and since then the growth has been continuous. The following are the figures for the past nine years:—

Year	Tons	Value £	Year	Tons	Value £
1886	341,969	190,700	1891	463,970	245,700
1887	377,601	201,700	1892	458,233	254,950
1888	403,955	208,200	1893	560,365	265,200
1889	403,663	226,700	1894	524,298	268,800
1890	422,927	242,100			

Our contemporary ascribes this gratifying result in a great part to the excellent qualities of the German pharmacist abroad, and to the zeal with which that individual pushes the sale of the products of his Fatherland. The average German chemist abroad, it says, is a hardworking, plodding man, who knows how to work up a business and to make himself at home in his new surroundings, being a man of "laudable elasticity" (*sic*!) compared with the "unbending Englishman." The writer admits that there is not much sympathy abroad with the German man of business, but asserts that in the long run the German's reputation for "keeping honest goods," and his ability to assist customers in questions connected with chemistry, botany, mineralogy, &c., assist him in taking up a good position. Almost invariably a wholesale business in drugs, paints, perfumery, &c., is added to the pharmacy, and it is in these departments that the emigrated apotheker becomes an advance-guard of his country's industrial expansion. "During the years immediately following the Franco-German war" (the article proceeds) "labels denoting German origin might have been looked for in vain in the stock of a foreign chemist. It occurred sometimes, indeed, that among some hundreds of labels of Parisian, London, and New York houses one would come upon a hottle bearing the sign of Schering's chemical-works in Berlin, but even in that case the origin of the goods was obscured by the label being printed in French, 'Ancienne Maison Schering.' German chemists abroad again and again placed their orders with firms in the Fatherland, until the 'Ancienne Maison Schering' holdly blossomed out into 'Chemische Fabrik Schering,' and dozens of other German names crowded the shelves of the 'bótica' or 'store.'"

## THE CITRONELLA-OIL DISPUTE.

ANOTHER chapter of the Treatt-Domeier citronella-oil dispute has been concluded this week. As we mentioned in our issue of March 21, Messrs. Domeier & Co. were the purchasers of a second parcel of citronella oil from Mr. R. C. Treatt, in addition to the one previously commented upon. The arbitrators appointed under the rules of the London Produce-Brokers' Association have decided that Messrs. Domeier & Co. must accept and pay for the first parcel tendered, although the oil was admittedly adulterated to the extent of about 42 per cent., and a Judge in Chambers has ruled that a dispute must be submitted to arbitration, according to the conditions of the contract, before recourse can be had to the law of the land. Under these circumstances the evolution of the dispute concerning the second parcel of oil (the first, we understand, having been accepted



and paid for, is considered as a terminated transaction) has been awaited with much interest in Mincing Lane circles. The arbitrators were Mr. W. W. Green (of the firm of Brookes & Green), for Mr. Treatt, and Mr. French (of French & Plucknett), for Messrs. Domeier & Co., and the case was heard on Tuesday, the proceedings occupying two hours. Both parties to the dispute were represented by their legal advisers, and among those present at the hearing were Messrs. C. and C. J. Umney and Edward Horner, who gave evidence for Mr. Domeier, and a representative of Messrs. S. Figgis & Co., the brokers who sold the citronella oil. The fact that the parcel was adulterated by the same means, and to almost the same extent, as the first, was not denied, and Mr. Treatt relied exclusively upon the *caveat emptor* principle which has so powerful a hold upon the Mincing Lane brokers' sympathies. The arbitrators gave their decision in Mr. Treatt's favour, finding that the citronella oil, or, rather, the compound, supplied was "equal to sample," and setting aside all other considerations. They also refused Mr. Domeier's application to state a case for the consideration of a properly qualified legal tribunal. "Let the buyer beware" is their shihholeth, and unless the law come to his aid, Mr. Domeier must swallow "the mixture as before." But the case is not likely to end here. The defeated side can, if they choose, appeal to the committee of the Brokers' Association, as they did in the case of the first parcel, but Messrs. Domeier & Co. have probably had enough of broker-arbitrators, and we understand that they are going to try to set the award aside at law.

In Mincing Lane the case has evoked an extraordinary amount of feeling, in which, unfortunately, the personal element enters largely. Each side, of course, has its friends and enemies, and while practically the whole of the produce-brokers are on the side of Mr. Treatt, the drug-trade emphatically support Mr. Domeier.

#### RE-DISCOVERY OF PIPECLAY.

Mr. Vansittart, British Consul at Chicago, has informed the Foreign Office that a new product has been discovered in the vicinity of Kansas City, Missouri, which is called "silicate of aluminium"; it is a soft stone and can be cut with a penknife. When placed in cold water for four hours it expands to about three times its size and becomes a natural paste; this paste is put on horses' sore feet, and it seems to have proved a speedy cure. It is said that some foreign countries are now trying it, and that one China house contemplates manufacturing different kinds of goods out of the substance. It has hitherto been used for humions, sprains, and also for tooth-powder, with good results. The German Government have experimented recently with this "silicate of aluminium" on some army horses, and were so pleased with the result that they have since ordered 20 tons of it. Then the Government publication which gives this information proceeds to tell people where they should apply for this—shall we say it?—pipeclay!

#### THE ACTIVE SUBSTANCE OF THE THYROID.

Writing to the *British Medical Journal* Dr. Robert Hutchison states, in regard to recent observations on the active principle of the thyroid, that he has divided sheep's thyroids into proteids and proteid-free watery extract, and on trial found the proteids to be active. These proteids are a nucleo-albumin and the colloid matter. The former was inactive, the latter active. The proteid-free watery extract was then concentrated. It would contain the bodies noted by Fraenkel and Drechsel. It was found, even in very large doses, to produce no effect on a patient who had reacted distinctly to thyroid tinctoids and to the isolated colloid

matter. The colloid matter is therefore the active ingredient of the thyroid. The author has isolated it in a pure state, and finds it contains a considerable quantity of iodine in organic combination, and he has succeeded in splitting off from it a body apparently identical with that obtained by Baumann from the entire gland. If his substance be really active it would indicate that the colloid matter owes its activity to the organic compound of iodine.

#### HOW PEPSIN IS PROCURED IN CHICAGO.

This is how the *Weekly Scotsman* says it is done:—

In the pepsin-factories are long rows of pig-stalls, each with a young pig in it. No animal can give such a flow of pepsin as a young pig with an enormous appetite. For several weeks each pig is fed with great quantities of oatmeal, and is allowed to drink great quantities of water. Thus each pig is presently perfectly clean and has a stomach that is in perfect working order. Its appetite, growing with much feeding, is enormous, and the glands which contain the gastric juice are large and secrete gastric juice to their utmost capacity. When this condition is reached they give it nothing to eat, nothing to drink. [Here fill in the horrors of starvation, squealing, &c., and imagine that the pig becomes in appearance a veritable Auchtermuchty dog, a shadowy thing buttoned up the back.] When the pigs have suffered all they possibly can troughs of steaming potatoes are put outside their stalls so that each pig can get his nose just over the edge of the trough, but no further. When this is done the wretched animals strain at the bars and screech in agony. Then the gastric juice begins to flow into the stomach. It flows almost in a stream, so terrible is the excitement of appetite. When the flow is at its greatest the pig is killed and ripped open, and the gastric juice is taken away to be prepared as pepsin for the market. The carcase of the pig is also sold.

After horrors such as this, how can any man of feeling take pepsin? We admit the possibility of the *Weekly Scotsman* having been misled by that beautiful touch about the fattening-properties of oatmeal and the woeful consequences of not getting it, but ere now national pride and another Scotch characteristic may have given way, and the *Weekly Scotsman* may see where the joke comes in.

#### THE POST OFFICE AND SAMPLES OF LIQUIDS.

At the annual meeting of the Chemical Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, on February 27 (see *C. & D.*, March 7), one of the principal matters discussed was Mr. Thomas Christy's proposal to inquire into the restrictions placed on industry by the present Post Office regulations regarding the forwarding of samples containing liquids. In most foreign countries, especially in Germany and France, the postal regulations permit liquids to pass through the ordinary or sample post when packed in glass or metal containers. In the United Kingdom, however, this is illegal. The drug and chemical trades are probably more seriously inconvenienced by this regulation of our Post Office than any others, and it is an open secret that firms are now compelled to dodge the Post Office in a somewhat undignified manner by either packing hottles containing liquids in sawdust or by other means. This course is naturally open to serious objections, and representations are therefore being made to the authorities, under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, to obtain more liberal treatment. Mr. Christy, who, with one or two other members of the Chemical Section, was appointed upon a committee to deal with this matter, has drawn up a lengthy statement setting forth the grievances of British traders in detail. In this statement he points out that it is often necessary to use the ordinary letter post as a means for transmitting liquid medicines because there is no parcel-post delivery on Sundays, and it is suggested that the Postmaster-General should depute a member of his staff to discuss the question with the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, who are confident that



they can convince the authorities that liquids can be sent without any danger to other postal matter. The inconvenience of the present system is also seriously felt in dealing with the colonies and foreign countries. Thus a German, French, or American firm is allowed by his post office to send samples of waxes, greases, perfumes, tinctures, &c., through the post to colonial customers, while the Britisher is not. The Committee, under these circumstances, invite members of the drug-trade generally to assist them with suggestions, as to the best means of overcoming the present difficulty and will welcome any hints as to special shape of bottles, labels, &c., which may seem desirable. The Committee also suggest that arrangements ought to be made for ocean steamers to carry sample-post parcels to ports in North and South America, and elsewhere, which are not on the scheduled list of places to which parcel-post packages can be sent.

## Reviews and Literary Notes.

*Leprosy Prize Essays*, No. 2. 8vo. Paper covers. Pp. 80 3s. 6d. Macmillan.

THIS pamphlet contains three essays received by the National Leprosy fund. One is on the "Conditions under which leprosy has declined in Iceland," by Dr. E. H. Ehlers, of Copenhagen; and the others, by Dr. S. P. Impey, of the Robbin Island Leper and Lunatic Asylums, on "Leprosy in South Africa" and "Spontaneous recovery from Leprosy." The essays are medico-statistical, but intensely interesting to the sociologist.

*Sugar Machinery: A Descriptive Treatise devoted to the Machinery and Apparatus used in the Manufacture of Cane and Beet Sugars.* By A. J. WALLIS-TAYLER, C.E. London: W. Rider & Co. (Limited). 8vo. Pp. viii + 314. 5s.

THIS is not a book which experts will learn much from, but it succeeds in conveying to the lay reader a good description of the technique of sugar manufacture and subjects incidental to it. Therefore, it will be useful to colonists and others who think of embarking upon that most precarious industry. We recommend the author to revise what he says about lubricating-oils, for the information about them is not up to date, and is misleading so far as adulteration is concerned.

*Monograph on Fluid Extracts, Solid Extracts, and Oleo-resins.* By JOSEPH HARROP. Columbus, Ohio: Harrop & Co. 8vo. Pp. 230. \$2.

WE announced some time ago the preparation of this book, and now that we have got it we do not find much new in it—at least, so far as the manufacture of extracts is concerned. The author tells what the menstrua are for 600 preparations, and, occasionally, how to make them; but there is no attempt whatever to deal with the individual difficulties which the pharmacist meets in exhausting drugs according to a common plan, and even the selection of menstrua is frequently open to question.

*Gummi arabicum und dessen Surrogate.* Von L. E. ANDÉS 8vo. viii. and 214 pp., and 42 woodcuts. Paper covers Vienna and Leipzig, 1896: A Hartleben. 3m.

THIS is the 220th volume of Hartleben's Technical Chemistry Library, which now seems to include every technological subject that one can conceive. Most of the volumes are written in a semi-popular style, but generally with such intelligence and knowledge of the particular branch of industry treated that they are helpful to those engaged in these branches. This remark applies with peculiar force to the present volume, in which Mr. Andés treats not only of the different varieties of gum arabic but of gums allied thereto, bassorin gums, and fruit-tree gums, telling all about their origin, composition, and how to make them available for industrial purposes. The greater part of the book is devoted to an account of the manufacture and properties of gum substitutes, such as dextrin, about which Mr. Andés gives a

great deal of information, together with illustrations of plant employed. A number of useful though conventional formulæ are included.

*Railway Ready-reckoner and Railway-charges Guide.* By J. M. GARDNER, Accountant, Leeds. London and Leeds: McCorquodale. 4s.

FIRMS who send large numbers of packages by rail will find this compilation very convenient. A set of tables provides the means of ascertaining in a moment the correct charge for the carriage of a package at any rate from 3s. 4d. to 150s. per ton, as well as for smalls, empties, and parcels.

*The Taxpayers' Cash-book*, by ALFRED M. SCARFF (Income-tax Adjustment Agency, 12 Poultry, E.C., 2s. 6d.), is a skillfully-planned cash-book, especially suited for retail businesses, bringing into focus the whole of the cash receipts and payments, showing private income and expenditure separately from trading items, and dividing the latter between expenses and goods accounts. Useful hints for income-tax purposes are also given.

*A Pharmacopœia for Diseases of the Skin.* Edited by JAMES STARTIN. 4th ed. 1896. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 32mo. 53 pp. 2s. 6d.

THIS small volume contains the prescriptions of the London Skin Hospital, and we judge from an examination of them that they do not typify the Editor's practice exclusively. The collection of formulæ should be useful to chemists who have anything like the average amount of dispensing to do, as most of the formulæ are distinctive, and are likely to be helpful to general practitioners. We may indeed suggest that enterprising retailers may with advantage let their medical friends know by circular of the contents of the book, and that the preparations can be dispensed when called for. If something such as this had been done by retailers in respect to all the special hospital Pharmacopœias there would not be so much ontory about proprietary preparations. We may go even further than that, by saying that the latter have been made possible by the lethargy of a large section of the retail drug-trade.

*Dental Materia Medica and Therapeutics.* By JAMES STOCKEN, L.D.S. Fourth edition. London, 1895: H. K. Lewis. 8vo. Pp. 155. 4s.

THIS is a very useful little book, in which the special information requisite for the intelligent use of drugs in the practice of dentistry is given in a clear manner. The hints given cannot fail to prove serviceable, and the collection of formulæ in the therapeutic index gives the book a value to practitioners which it might not otherwise have, since it is really a student's text-book. The present edition has been revised by Messrs. Leslie M. Stocken and J. O. Butcher, owing to the continued indisposition of the author.

*Industrial Explorings in and around London.* By R. ANDOM. With Illustrations by T. M. R. Whitwell. London: James Clarke & Co. 3s. 6d.

IT may have been thought that the conditions of industry in and around London were sad enough without the intrusion of the professional humourist. Such we take Mr. R. Andom to be. He claims to have previously written "We Three and Troddles," "The Strange Adventures of Roger Wilkins," and several etceteras. We have not had the advantage of studying those earlier works, and we are scarcely tempted to them by this one. Mr. R. Andom is a by no means unskilful author. He can describe brightly and intelligently the birds'-eye views of factories which he has taken. But he makes his work wearisome by the perpetration of small jokes in almost every sentence. His industrial explorings include visits to Soapland (E. Cook & Co., Bow), Candleland (Price's Patent Candle Company), Sweetland (Clark, Nicholls & Coombs), as well as records of visits to piano, rope, india-rubber, pottery, and other works. As we have said he can tell clearly enough what he has seen, and his accounts of his visits will probably serve as good advertisements for the firms honoured; but the seeker after technical or social details will be disappointed if he looks for them in this book. The illustrations, it is only fair to add, are more instructive than the letterpress.



## Advertising a Retail Drug-business.

A CORRESPONDENT of *Printers' Ink* asks that bright New York journal whether it can pay a retail druggist to advertise. Mr. C. A. Bates, an advertisement expert, contributes an amusing article in reply. "I do not see why a retail druggist should not advertise preparations of his own," says Mr. Bates, "if he has anything that is worth advertising."

"When I first read this letter I was going to cite the case of W. I. Boreman, of Parkersburg, W. Va., who attributes his success to advertising; then I remembered that Mr. Boreman has several preparations of his own, which he advertises along with other things. Boreman, however, is a cutter. That is to say, he runs his business on business principles, buys his goods at the lowest price he can get for the right sort of stuff, and sells them at a reasonable advance. Because he is smart enough to do this, and to get more trade than his slower brethren, he is dubbed a 'cutter,' and is frowned upon accordingly. I can understand why the old-fashioned pharmacist, who regards himself as a dignified and unapproachable professional man, would feel the utmost disgust to see his trade going to the wicked cutter. That's what is happening wherever there is a cutter pitted against a pharmacist, and I am inclined to think that the chances are in favour of the cutter being a better pharmacist than the pharmacist. If he is not he can hire a pharmacist. There are plenty of really good prescription-compounders who haven't a grain of business sense and could not run a peanut-stand profitably. They are all right when they are fitted into the proper niche, but they ought not to try to run a drug-store."

"The tendency of the times may be altogether wrong. I have nothing to do with that. I take facts as I find them. There is no use bucking against a fact. There is no use sitting still and saying that just because you are right you are going to everlasting smash on principle. The pharmacist may be right and the cutter may be wrong, but if the pharmacist sticks to it long enough he will starve to death."

"I do not mean to say that the ability to compound a prescription accurately is not a very valuable accomplishment. Of course, in so far, the drug-business is a professional business. If the doctor cannot have intelligent attention for his prescriptions, it will do him very little good to write them, and it is often the case that human lives hang in the balance when a prescription is being filled. A careless or incompetent prescription-clerk can do more damage than he is worth. The position is a responsible one, and should be filled intelligently and conscientiously, but that need not prevent the head of the concern being a business man."

"I cannot see any difference between the drug-business and any other retail business. I do not know how it is with other people, but I know that 99 per cent. of my drug-bills is not for filling prescriptions. It is astonishing how many things you can buy in a drug-store without buying drugs. These things are merchandise. Prescriptions are not merchandise. I would be afraid to have the price of my prescription cut, but I am very glad when I can get some standard patent medicine or a toilet-article at less than the manufacturer's list-price. If I were a druggist, I would advertise high prices on prescriptions and low prices on other things. It requires skill to compound a prescription, and the skill ought to be paid for. I would rather have two cents' worth of medicine and a dollar's worth of skill in a prescription than have a dollar's worth of medicine and two cents' worth of skill."

"I am afraid I am talking more about the drug-business than about advertising it. The long and short of the advertising question is that it will pay to advertise a drug-business, just as it pays to advertise every other business. There is no mystery about advertising. It is simply telling people where they can get what they want, or what they think they want."

"One man may tell another, and that is advertising. However the news is diffused, it is still advertising. Advertising is not necessarily printed words in a paper, the distribution of circulars, the painting of signs, or the posting of bills. It may be the store itself, and this is the best of all advertising. If it isn't done there, all the other advertising is discounted. No business can succeed without advertising of some sort, and the better the advertising, the greater the success."

## British Patents.

The subjoined are the briefest possible abstracts of specifications. Should anyone wish to have fuller particulars, the best plan is to get a copy of the specification desired, for which purpose they may obtain from any post office, for 8d., a patents-specification postcard, the despatch of which, duly filled in, will bring the copy by return post.

**Ammonium Carbonate** (No. 199, 1895).—Mr. Carl Raspe, Berlin, proposes to get rid of the empyreumatic and sulphur contaminations of crude ammon. carb. by subliming and bringing the vapour into contact with metallic oxide, preferably heated, and then with porous carbon.

**Disinfectant** (No. 783, 1895).—Mr. S. A. Vasey, F.I.C. F.C.S., Loughton, mixes ol. eucalypt 12 oz. with sodæ bicarb. 1 cwt., and then with 57 parts of this mixes 43 parts of chlorinated lime. The result is that when the powder is damped it gives off hypochlorous acid—HClO.

**Linen-gloss** (No. 791, 1895).—Mr. E. A. Loesch, grocer, Holderness Road, Kingston-upon-Hull, claims either for a mixture of borax 84 lbs., powdered gum arabic 27 lbs. 14 oz., and perfume 2 oz., or borax 111½ lbs., and perfume ¼ lb., for stiffening and glossing linen and the like.

**Musk-like Substance** (No. 417, 1895).—Mr. W. Mallmann, of Roermond, obtains a musk-like crystalline substance by converting dimethylbutyl acetophenone into the dinitro compound and purifying with soda and alcohol.

**Photography in Colours**.—Professor Joly's patent (No. 14,161, 1894) states that a screen is made by drawing a series of parallel coloured lines, alternately red, green, and blue, or other primary (*sic*) colours. This screen is placed over the plate before it is exposed. From the resulting negative a positive is taken, and a screen similar to the first is fixed over it in an exactly corresponding position. The light transmitted by each part of the picture will then correspond to the natural colours. Various methods of making the coloured screens are described.

**Powder distributor** (No. 629, 1895).—An apparatus designed by Mr. J. F. Davies, chemist, Hay, for distributing disinfectants, insecticides, &c. Consists of a box with distributing-nozzle in the front, and on the same plan at the back an indiarubber pipe with air-ball.

**Pyrocatechin** (No. 154, 1895).—Dr. Georg Tobias, Berlin, by treating salts of phenoltrisulpho-acid with soda or potash, and subsequent neutralisation, obtains pyrocatechin disulpho-acid, which, on heating to 140° C., yields pyrocatechin.

**Rectal Instrument**.—Mr. Frederick Trinder, chemist 27 Kennet Road, St. Peter's Park, W., has patented an instrument to be used in the treatment of such ailments as piles, chronic constipation, the early stage of fistula, &c. It may be used simply as a dilator for the application of medicated unguents, as an irrigator for washing out or syringing the lower rectum, or for injecting medicine.

**Substitute for White of Eggs** (No. 23, 1895).—Instead of egg-white for cake-icing, Mr. T. B. Milner, confectioner, Chesterfield, proposes to use a mixture of sheet gelatine 4 oz., French glue 1 oz., water 3 quarts, burnt alum ½ oz., finest white sugar 1½ lb.

**Sulphocyanides** are, according to patent No. 14,154, 1894 (G. S. Albright and J. J. Hood), made by heating carbon bisulphide and ammonia under pressure in presence of magnesia and boiling the product. When caustic alkali is used with magnesia, a solution of alkaline sulphocyanide is obtained.

**Vine-disease** (No. 360, 1895).—Mr. J. Y. Johnston, on behalf of two French citizens, claims the use of a mixture of sulphate of copper 215 parts, sulphate of alumina 385 parts, and bicarbonate of soda 400 parts, with water, for treating vines and other plants affected by cryptogamic disease. No. 361 is for a machine for applying this stuff.

**Water-softening** (No. 10, 1895).—The applicant, Mr. W. Brothers, manufacturing chemist, Rawtenstall, Lancs, claims the use of ammonium hydrogen carbonate (NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>3</sub>) for softening hard water.



## New Companies and Company News

**MINERAL OILS CORPORATION (LIMITED)**—Capital, 120,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire, import, manufacture, refine, store, export, trade with and deal in any kind of mineral, vegetable or animal oils, and to carry on the business of oil-refiners, and merchants, carriers, wharfingers, manufacturers, shipowners, &c. The first directors are: C. Hunting, C. S. Hunting, J. Duffield, and E. A. Gibson.

**HERMETICALLY-SEALED JAR SYNDICATE (LIMITED)**—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with F. Joynton, W. Harrison, and G. T. Joynton for the acquisition of certain inventions dealing with the manufacture of hermetically-sealed jars, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in jars, pots, bottles, cases, barrels, glue, cement, drugs, chemicals, glass, china, &c. Among the subscribers appear the names of Frederick Joynton, chemical-merchant, of 77 Boswell Street, Liverpool, and George Parker, chemical-broker, of 116 Exchange Buildings, Liverpool.

**TRAPP'S OIL GAS FUEL PATENT SYNDICATE**.—Registered in Scotland. Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt and carry into effect, with or without modification, an agreement between Robert Barlow, of Chicago, U.S., and Laurie Moyes, oil expert, Glasgow, to acquire, work, and develop in the United Kingdom and elsewhere inventions, patents, and other processes for improvements, and relating to regenerative and other furnaces, and for the heating of furnaces by combustion of gas produced from oil, known as Trapp's oil-gas fuel patent, &c. Registered office, 93 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

**LYONS' INKS (LIMITED)**.—Capital 20,000*l.*, divided into 2,000 5*l.*-per-cent. cumulative preference shares of 5*l.* each and 10,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a manufacturer of writing, copying, marking, endorsing, and all other inks, and other similar fluids, sealing-wax, liquid gum, clucine, glass bottles, &c., carried on by Joseph Lyons, at Park Street, Manchester, Exchange Street, Cheetham, and 35 Budge Row, London. The first directors are Joseph Lyons, Geo. Kilvert, and Thomas Collier. Registered office, Park Street, Manchester.

**W. R. HATTON & SONS (LIMITED)**.—Capital 25,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern the business carried on as "W. R. Hatton & Sons," at 316 and 318 Latimer Road, Wormwood Scrubs, to enter into an agreement for the purpose, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in starch, blue, soap, chemicals, laundry supplies, &c. The first directors are W. R. Hatton, starch manufacturer, H. Hatton, starch manufacturer, and W. P. Hatton, manufacturing chemist, all of 73 St. Quintin's Avenue, North Kensington, W.

SEVERAL company-pharmacies have lately been established in the island of Java (Dutch Indies). They appear to do a good business, the "People's Pharmacy 'Friendship'" (*sic*!) having just declared a dividend of 8 per cent., the "Pharmacy at Cheribon" a dividend of 18 per cent.

**THE GENERAL APOTHECARIES' COMPANY (LIMITED)**.—At the annual general meeting of the above company, held at the offices, 49 Berners Street, Oxford Street, W., on March 24, Mr. George Brown in the chair, a resolution sanctioning the payment of a dividend of 8 per cent. on the preference shares and 6½ per cent. on the ordinary shares was carried.

THE Java cinchona-industry seems to be touching rock-bottom. The coffee and cinchona planting company "Paligaran," of Java and Amsterdam, seems to be in a bad way. The directors have been compelled to propose a temporary suspension of the interest on the debentures, and the execution of a mortgage on the estates in favour of a financial concern, which is to receive the whole of the "Paligaran" estate's produce in consignment in return. The directors announce that unless the debenture-holders signify their acceptance of these proposals before June 4, it is very likely that creditors will foreclose and sell up the estate. An improvement in

the cinchona-prices, it is added, somewhat superfluously, would benefit the company greatly.

**SPRATT'S PATENT**.—At the annual meeting of this company Mr. G. B. Batchelor, vice-chairman, who presided, stated that in ten years dividends amounting to 183,000*l.* had been paid on a paid-up capital of 150,000*l.* A considerable amount had besides been carried to reserve fund. The new factory at Poplar, he said, was now completed, and was a magnificent building. The report, recommending a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. for the half-year, making 12½ per cent. on the year, was adopted.

## Trade-Marks Applied for.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Lack, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," March 18, 1896.)

"QUAKER": for malt-extract. By Blackmore, Leconte & Co., D., Horseshoe Alley Warehouses, Bankside, London, malt-extract manufacturers. 192,589.

"LABROSIA"; for pepsine products. By T. B. Percy, 11 River Street, Truro, chemist. 192,689.

Combination of devices and wording on wrapper; for egg, baking, and blancmange powder. By A. Bird & Sons, Devonshire Works, Floodgate Street, Birmingham. 192,598-99-600. The essential particular is the combination of devices.

"REFEREE"; for perfumed soap. By J. J. Rigby, Regent Works, Comus Street, Regent Road, Salford, soap-manufacturer. 193,244.

Device of barometer; for chemical substances used in medicine and pharmacy. By the Dyspepsia Cure Syndicate, 6½ Anstin Friars, London, manufacturers. 193,303.

Figure of Crusader; for medicated strips for inhalation-purposes. By Heath's Patent Herbal Strip Company, 12 Bromsgrove Road, Redditch. 191,743.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," March 25, 1896.)

"EXSOL"; for chemical substances used in manufactures, photography, &c.; also for goods in Class 50. By F. W. Fletcher, Beauchamp Lodge, Enfield, manufacturing chemist. 192,726.

Device of reindeer in a circle, and wording, "REINDEER BRAND"; for carbonate of ammonia. By G. W. Stones, Chemical Works, Livesey, near Blackburn. 192,942. The essential particular is the device and the word "Reindeer."

"CYCLECEA"; for chemical substances used for agricultural, sanitary purposes, &c. By H. D. Brandreth, 22 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead, manufacturer. 193,401.

"WELSFORD'S EUPTICA"; for a medicine for human use. By Welford & Co., 15 Clarendon Road, Walthamstow. 193,213.

"WHOPS THE WORLD," and portrait of applicant; for an ointment for human use. By R. Conner, 97 Woodstock Street, Canning Town, Essex. 192,292. The essential particular is the portrait.

"KREWEL'S PILLS," and device of hammer, anvil and signature on label with wording, for pills for human use. By Krewel & Co., 21 Steinstrasse, Cologne, Germany, manufacturing chemists, 192,584. The essential particulars are the label, device of hammer, anvil and signature.

"REFEREE"; for a medicated soap for human use. By J. J. Rigby, Regent Soap-works, Comus Street, Regent Road, Salford. 193,283.

"ERASMIC HERB SOAP," and device of soap-tablet; for perfumed soap. By J. Crosfield & Sons, Bank Quay, Warrington. 192,813. The essential particulars are the device of tablet and the word "Erasmic."

"SOLINCTA"; for chemical substances used in medicine and pharmacy. By F. W. Fletcher, Beauchamp Lodge, Enfield, manufacturing chemist. 192,215.

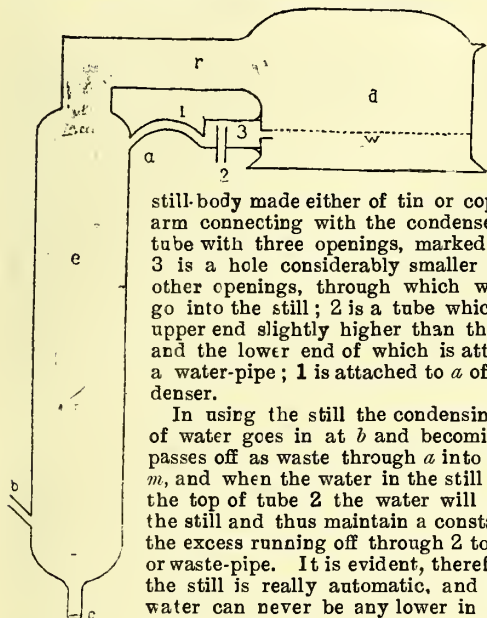


## New Apparatus.

### AN AUTOMATIC STILL.

MR. FRANK EDEL states in the *Druggists' Circular* that he has combined the principle of the constant-level water-bath with a still having a Remington condenser.

The annexed drawing shows the arrangement; *d* is the



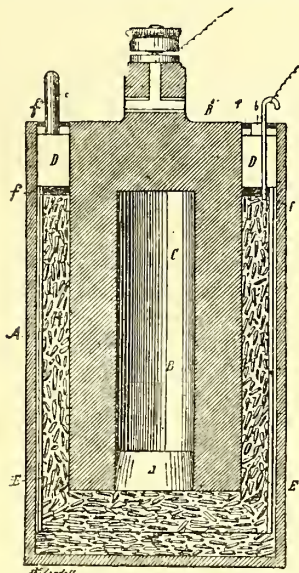
still-body made either of tin or copper, *e* an arm connecting with the condenser, *m* is a tube with three openings, marked 1, 2, 3; 3 is a hole considerably smaller than the other openings, through which water can go into the still; 2 is a tube which has its upper end slightly higher than the hole 3, and the lower end of which is attached to a water-pipe; 1 is attached to *a* of the condenser.

In using the still the condensing stream of water goes in at *b* and becoming warm passes off as waste through *a* into the tube *m*, and when the water in the still is below the top of tube 2 the water will run into the still and thus maintain a constant level, the excess running off through 2 to the sink or waste-pipe. It is evident, therefore, that the still is really automatic, and that the water can never be any lower in the still-body than the level of the pipe connected

with the tube to carry off waste.

### A NEW DRY BATTERY.

THIS apparatus is described in the *Scientific American*. It consists of a glass vessel, *A*, in which is placed a carbon electrode, *B*, and a zinc one, *E*, which is closely applied to the inner surface of the vessel. In the carbon electrode

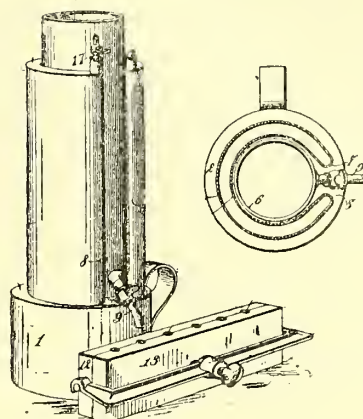


there is a cavity, *C*, which may be filled with any kind of depolariser, and then be closed with a stopper, *a*. The space between the zinc and the carbon, as well as the lower part of the battery-vessel, is filled with chopped straw, compressed and saturated with bichloride of mercury. This

filling extends to within  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch of the upper edge of the vessel, so that a space may be reserved for the reception of the liquid before the reaction is brought about. Upon the filling there is placed a cap of hemp *f*, to prevent the element from emptying when it chanced to be inverted. The aperture of the glass is also closed with a cap of hemp, *f'*, impregnated with a resinous substance, and coated with asphaltic cement. Finally, three filling apertures are formed in the cover, and are closed with stoppers *c*. After the liquid that is to dissolve the exciting salt of the battery has been introduced, the electric current produced decomposes the bichloride of mercury into chlorine and mercury. The latter amalgamates the zinc, and thereafter prevents it from being attacked when the battery is at rest. As for the chlorine, that combines with the hydrogen of the reaction and forms hydrochloric acid, which, when the battery is not in operation, dissolves the layer of oxide of zinc, and thus permits of a new attack of the positive electrode over its entire surface. At rest, the element remains perfectly dry, so no reaction occurs and it loses no force.

### SUPPOSITORY-MACHINE.

MR. DAVID GENESE, Baltimore, Md., has obtained a U.S.A. patent for the suppository-machine figured herewith. It is an apparatus for maintaining in a heated condition the material for making suppositories, and consists of a vessel from the top wall of which rises an annular steam-chamber communicating with the interior of the vessel, and having a vertical opening



in its walls, and a removable cylindrical container arranged in the steam-chamber, resting upon the top portion of the kettle or vessel (1), heated by the latter and the annular steam-chamber, and provided with a discharge-nozzle (9). This nozzle is placed in the vertical opening of the steam-chamber, and adapted to pass vertically through the opening when the container is removed or replaced. The steam-chamber has at the top a steam-escape (17).

DR. WILLIAM SMOULT PLAYFAIR, whose professional and family affairs occupied so much public attention last week, is a popular physician something over 60 years of age, with a special reputation for the treatment of ladies' complaints. He is a younger brother of Lord Playfair. He graduated M.D. in Edinburgh in 1856.





## The Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

### MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.

ON the afternoon of March 27, at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Cambridge, the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association received a deputation from the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, the representatives of that organisation being Messrs. W. S. Glyn-Jones (Secretary), G. R. Barclay (Barclay & Sons), W. A. Gilligan (Liebig's Extract of Meat Company), and H. S. Norris (Condal Water Company).

Mr. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P., Cambridge, presided, and there were eight other chemists present.

The Honorary Secretary intimated that he had received letters favourable to the movement from several other chemists of Cambridge and the neighbourhood.

The Chairman apologised for the absence of their President (Mr. Alderman Deck), who was out of town. He said the retail trade had been suffering from the cutting system for many years. He noticed that some grocers had joined the P.A.T.A., and perhaps it was not to be regretted that the grocers had themselves felt the consequences of the cutting they started many years ago.

Mr. Glyn-Jones, in explaining the objects of the Association, said the desire for the movement originated with the distributors. THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST had pointed out that there could not be the shadow of a doubt that 90 per cent. of the retailers were anxious for larger profits. His few hours' run round Cambridge had shown him that they knew something of cutting there. The public thought that the shop which was cheapest for patent medicines was cheapest all round, and, consequently, the man who tried to maintain the prices of patent medicines lost ground all along the line. Consequently, retail chemists had to sell well-advertised goods at cost-prices, and use all their business capacity and ingenuity in introducing other articles. That was the plan which he, as a retailer, had been forced to adopt. Wholesale dealers had felt the cutting as much or more than retailers. He thanked the Press for the way in which they had supported the Association, which had now local branches at Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth, and Birmingham, and numbered about four hundred members.

Mr. Barclay said his firm intended to fix a minimum selling-price for their proprietary articles, and to give the retail distributor not less than 25 per cent.

Mr. Gilligan said his firm had a letter some little time ago from the leading grocers in a town complaining of the action of a certain chemist. They believed the P.A.T.A. would be able to deal with such cases.

Mr. Norris emphasised the importance of the co-operation of retail chemists. If the Association were able to show that 5,000 or 6,000 leading pharmacists were prepared to put a particular article out of their shops, that firm might be inclined to support the Association.

Mr. Field: I think we ought to know before we sign any agreement how far we shall go with respect to substitution.

Mr. Barclay: You will not be asked to sign any agreement.

Messrs. Greenwood, Field, Addison, Parsons and Hutchin said they would join the Association.

Mr. Addison spoke of his experience in London, stating that after Messrs. Elliman adopted an anti-cutting scheme, the sale of their preparations went up rapidly in the establishment where he was employed.

Mr. Glyn-Jones said there was no thought of imposing upon retailers absolute terms in regard to substitution.

Motions to support the Association, and expressing approval of its objects, and a vote of thanks to the deputation were then passed.

A public meeting of South London chemists has been convened by a local committee to enable them to discuss the anti-cutting question, particularly with reference to the Proprietary Articles Trade Association. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, at Gresham Hall, Gresham Road, near Brixton Station. The Secretary of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association will attend to explain its objects and proposals, and will be accompanied by some of the

members of the manufacturers' and wholesale sections of its Council. The chair will be taken by G. R. Barclay, Esq., at 9.30 P.M. Mr. W. Johnston, of 69 Loughborough Road, S.W., convenes the meeting.

## Parliamentary.

### THE USE OF PETROLEUM.

THE Select Committee of the House of Commons, of which Mr. Mundella is the chairman, appointed to inquire into the working of the Petroleum Acts had under examination all day on Friday Mr. A. Spender, chief officer of the Public Control Department of the London County Council. He gave it as his opinion that the existing Petroleum Acts were quite inadequate. They dealt wholly with petroleum spirit, which was much less in use than petroleum oil, the result being that the great bulk of petroleum coming into the country was subject to no control whatever. Petroleum spirit had practically ceased to be used for illuminating-purposes, but the quantity used for trade and manufacturing purposes was constantly increasing. There were in London 360 premises licensed for the use of petroleum spirit for trade or manufacturing purposes. It was of the greatest importance that the spirit should be contained in properly sealed vessels, in order to minimise the danger arising from the escape of vapour. The conveyance of the spirit should be in properly closed vessels. The Council approved of underground premises for storage purposes, and one dangerous fire in the neighbourhood of the Thames, in which great quantities of resin were burning, had proved the safety of underground storage. The object of obtaining further powers in respect of petroleum oil was to enable the authorities to deal with reckless or want-of-thought people. There were people who would drop matches on petroleum-saturated floors, which might cause formidable fires. He quoted statistics showing the growth in the importation of petroleum oil during the last six years, and mentioned that while the import of American oil had gone on increasing that from Russia had decreased. In his opinion the Bill of 1891 introduced by the Home Office would meet the whole requirements in regard to the storage and carriage of oil.

## The Low-temperature Research.

THE theatre of the Royal Institution was filled with an appreciative audience on Friday night, when Professor Dewar delivered his lecture on "New Researches on Liquid Air," or researches at low temperatures. Half an hour previous to the lecture there was not a vacant seat. Messrs. Lennox and Heath were early on the scene putting a few finishing touches to the apparatus, and a minute or two past 9 o'clock Professor Dewar stepped on to the platform. Professor Frankland presided.

Professor Dewar said he proposed to deal with the problem of the production of low temperatures, and to draw attention to the difficulties encountered in approaching the absolute zero of temperature. He first described the apparatus which was used for the first time some ten years ago for the production of liquid air. That apparatus had met with an accident through the gases in the tubes getting mixed, and a light coming into contact with them, thereby causing an explosion and destroying the apparatus. This delayed work for some time. Referring to criticisms which had been made regarding his claim to the originality of the vacuum vessels, and alleging that similar vessels had been used by somebody else, he could only say in reply that he simply took the principles as he found them, and tried to improve the apparatus which his predecessors had used. Professor Leyden, who had been ten years at work on low temperatures, had recently published a pamphlet dealing with the question of research at low temperatures.

The first experiment he was going to try that evening was to solidify liquid air. This was done by simply cooling a vessel of air until the temperature was low enough to condense it, and in a few minutes he collected a sufficient



quantity of liquid air in the test-tube. The temperature of this liquid air was lowered still further by exhaustion, and formed into solid air. This experiment could not be performed with liquid air that had been kept an hour or two. The solid air was composed of a jelly of solid nitrogen containing oxygen. It was quite possible to fill a vessel with a litre of liquid air, and bring it down to half a litre of solid air.

He next took a glass bulb of bromine, and showed the rapidity with which it could be condensed into a solid by passing a little liquid air through the bulb, the red colour of the bromine at once disappearing.

Two flasks, one of nitrogen and the other of oxygen, were next shown, both being at the same pressure as they exist in the atmosphere—viz., the N two-tenths and the O eight-tenths of pressure. His idea was to show whether by liquefying the two simultaneously one would evaporate in a longer or shorter time than the other. The result of this experiment was that they both liquefied together, as was shown by the diagram on the screen. Mr. Lennox next burnt the fragment of a diamond at a very high temperature, and transferred it into solid carbonic acid by means of liquid air.

Proceeding with his lecture the Professor said there are a number of curious problems with regard to research at low temperatures, and it had been asked, "Can chemical combination take place?" With regard to a large number of bodies we can get nothing that we can trace; but there is one curious gas—viz., nitric oxide—which, when it is solid and is immersed in liquid oxygen, shows nothing; but the moment you take it out into the open air there is a sudden explosion. The same effect is noticeable with ozone at low temperature, and with this there have been some serious accidents, the ozone breaking up with the sudden ebullition of heat and explosion ensuing.

The question of high-pressure gas-jets was next considered, especially with relation to that of hydrogen. He knew of no means of getting below the temperature of the critical point of hydrogen except by employing its own expansion. There had been suggestions with regard to the method of attacking hydrogen; but the original, as proposed by Professor Wroblewski, seemed to be the only really effective way, and that was as indicated above. To do this it is necessary to raise the critical point of hydrogen by a mixture of air. If we add, say, 5 per cent. of air to hydrogen we can get it to have a critical point within the limit which can liquefy the mixture; but when an attempt is made to solidify this the air solidifies but the hydrogen escapes. Lately, and for some time past, he had experimented by passing the gas through needle-point jets, by which most gases could be liquefied. So far he had not been able to succeed directly with hydrogen; but he hoped that by prosecuting this line of investigation he would, at some future time, be able to manufacture liquid hydrogen on a large scale.

## Trade Notes.

MESSRS. NEEDHAM BROTHERS, of Huddersfield, have acquired the property in Hunter's Vermin-destroyer.

MESSRS. JOHN LEYLAND & Co., growers of lavender, peppermint, rose, &c., and distillers, of Byfleet, Surrey, have opened a London office at 110 Cannon Street, E.C.

MESSRS. HERTZ & COLLINGWOOD have taken a large warehouse at 20 Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, where they now stock all their specialities instead of at 4 Sussex Place, E.C. Their office is at 38 Leadenhall Street, as before.

THE warehouse of the Rosbach Springs (Limited) is removed from 4 Sussex Place, E.C., to 20 Bury Street, E.C. All deliveries of goods should be tendered there, but all communications should be addressed to the offices of the company, 38 Leadenhall Street.

MESSRS. MEISTER, LUCIUS & BRÜNING point out, in reference to the trade-note of Behring's Diphtheria-remedy in our last issue, that they have not withdrawn the original brands O, I, II., and III. from the market, but that the six new strengths of serums are additional ones. In all, therefore, ten different strengths are at present obtainable.

AN announcement inserted in our advertisement section this week states that the competition between Johann Hoff, of Berlin, and M. Hoff, of Hamburg, in Hoff's malt extracts has ceased, an arrangement having been come to whereby the trade in the United Kingdom is to belong solely to M. Hoff. New terms are now given.

SOME time ago we mentioned that an American pharmacist had brought out a litmus-pencil, one end of which contained the composition of the test for alkalies, and the other end that for acids. Messrs. T. Christy & Co. inform us that



they have taken the agency for these pencils, and are prepared to supply them. The pencil is much more sensitive than the ordinary litmus-paper. The illustration sufficiently shows the character of the invention.

THE office of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST will be closed from Thursday evening of this week till Tuesday morning of next week. We have received notifications from Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., and from Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), that their establishments will be closed during the same period. No doubt some other houses in the drug-trade will give the same holidays, but these are the only intimations which have been sent to us.

OUR remarks of last week in reference to Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co.'s half-yearly price current referred only to their English export list, which they issue jointly with Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb, of London, every six months, and must not be confused with their usual monthly list for the home trade, which is published separately. Both lists are printed and published on the premises of the firm in Liverpool, under the personal supervision of the principals. The firm also publish two or three lists in the Spanish language.

## Personalities.

MR. W. MAUNDER, chemist and druggist, has been elected on the Stonehouse (Devon) Board of Guardians.

MR. RALPH CASSIE, chemist, of Newgate Street, has been re-appointed churchwarden of Christ Church, Newgate Street.

ALDERMAN J. M. H. CARDELL, of Cardell & Cardell, chemists, Bodmin, has been elected on the Board of Guardians of that town.

MR. FREDERICK HACKFORTH, chemist and druggist, Leyland, has been re-elected (unopposed) a member of Leyland Urban District Council.

MR. STEPHEN STEPHENS, chemist and druggist, Golcar, has been elected (unopposed) a representative of the East Ward of the Urban District Council.

AT a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of London, held on Monday last, Mr. Samuel Wilks, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., was elected President.

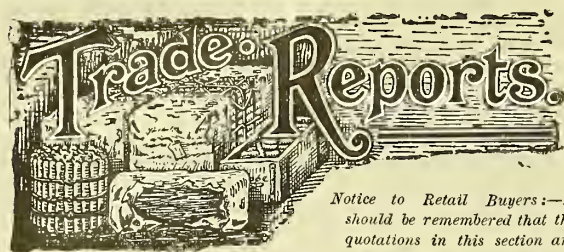
MR. G. S. BALL, pharmaceutical chemist, Weston-super-Mare, has for the second time been elected to the Urban District Council for the West Ward of that town, this time at the head of the poll.

MR. FREDERICK TUNBRIDGE, chemist and druggist, Reading, is a director of the Reading and District Mutual Plate-glass Insurance Company (Limited), which has just been formed, with a capital of 10,000*l*.

MR. ARTHUR B. KENT, of the firm of G. B. Kent & Sons, brush-manufacturers, of Great Marlborough Street, W., intends to sail in the *St. Paul* from Southampton on April 11, for a business trip to the United States and Canada.

MR. HERTZ, of Messrs. Hertz & Collingwood, has just returned to London after a three months' business trip to Egypt, Malta, &c. Mr. Hertz has favoured us with some interesting photographs illustrating some aspects of the drug-trade in Cairo, which we hope to publish next week.





Notice to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large

quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable even for manufacturing purposes. Further points which should be borne in mind are that distributor generally has to bear the bulk of the freight-charges on the goods on their way from the producer to the retailer, and that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., April 1.

**ALTHOUGH** business is now practically closed until after Easter, and there have been comparatively few transactions this week, some rather important price alterations must be reported. The chief of these is an advance of about 15 per cent. in salicylic acid and salicylates. Camphor has been reduced 2d. per lb. Mercurials are steady, carbolic acid is firm, quinine tends easier, and boracic acid offers at somewhat lower rates. Tartaric and citric acids are unchanged, arsenic much dearer, sulphate of copper easier. Cream of tartar is lower, and gallic acid remains very firm. In crude drugs there are not many alterations. Araroba is very scarce. Cod-liver oil still shows a tendency towards weakness, although prices are but little easier. Crude camphor is lower. Balsam Peru, orris-root, citronella oil, and HGH peppermint oil are easier. Menthol, belladonna-root, and jalap are also lower. Tragacanth and opium are steady. Saffron is very firm. Insect-powder and ipecacuanha dearer. Balsams of tolu and copaiba are tending higher. There has been a strong demand at improved rates for East Indian gums. In articles connected with the drug-trade we have to report firmer rates for benzol, wood naphtha, acetate of soda, and ceresin wax. Shellac is steady. Sulphate of ammonia, refined tar, pitch, toluol, acetates of lime and lead are easier. Cloves, Cochin ginger, mace, nutmegs, pepper, and pimento remain dull, but Jamaica ginger is higher. Linseed, palm, coconut, and olive oils dull and easier, rape and cotton-seed oils unchanged. Turpentine a turn better. Petroleum slightly easier. The Bank rate remains at 2 per cent., and bar-silver still stands at 31½d. per oz.

A London wholesale house lately received the following unranked letter from an unknown correspondent with a double-barrelled name, who gives his address as New Bond Street, Nightingale Square, Cape Coast Castle. The letter does not present a very Bond Street-like appearance, being written on a torn-off section of foolscap paper. It runs as follows:—

D Sirs,—I was led to write this letter by a friend of mine he happened in conversation to recommend you so lightly to me as being a faithful trader to & then I made up my mind to have a large & prosperous trade with you, if you only send me your Samples, Price List & Catalogue if any as they are the only Principals I would ask you therefore to send me them that I may be enabled to select orders from & more else. Hoping you will not fail to comply kindly with my request soon Early reply expected by the coming steamer Excuse me for this letter being unpaid as the steamer came here very unexpectedly.

I Remain  
Yrs Sincerely

If any firm should be anxious to enter upon this "large and prosperous trade" we should be glad to forward them the writer's name.

In his report for the last quarter of 1895, the director of the Government cinchona gardens in Java states that the short but extremely fierce drought which has prevailed in the island last year has done a great deal of damage to the young plants. As it is the intention of the Government to reduce its plantations to the nature of an experimental station only, the trees in three of the gardens are about to be uprooted. The harvest during 1895 amounted to 634,774 half-kilos., of which 586,480 were *Ledgeriana*, and almost all the rest *Succirubra*. In order not to depress the market more than necessary fully 50,000 half-kilos. of this quantity were kept back in the island. The average quinine-content of the *Ledgeriana* bark was 6.43 per cent. against 6.55 per cent. in 1894.

ACETANILID is in good demand, but prices show no improvement, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. being still the quotation

ACETATES.—There has been a further decline in *Acetate of lime*, which is now offering at very low figures; brown 4l. 15s., grey 8l. per ton. *Acetate of soda* remains firm and rather scarce, both on the spot and for forward delivery. The quotation is 15l. 10s. per ton, Hull. *Acetate of lead*, dull and rather easier; white *English* is quoted at 26l. per ton on the spot; foreign ditto at 22l.; grey at 19l. on the spot; and brown at 15l. on the spot.

ACID (BORACIC).—Dull and easier. Powder can now be had at 29s. 6d. per cwt.

ACID (CARBOLIC) remains very firm. It is said that considerable export orders were placed a few days ago at high prices for 34° to 35° crystals. To-day's quotations are—crystals, 39° to 40° C., 8d. per lb.; 34° to 35° C., 7½d. to 7d. per lb. Crude carbolic steady at 2s. 3d. per gallon for 60 per cent.

ACID (GALLIC) is very firm in sympathy with the high prices of galls, but the quotations are still unchanged at from 1s. 9d. per lb.

ACID (SALICYLIC).—The advance in carbolic acid has at length affected salicylates, and a modification in the quotations on the part of the "convention" was announced on March 30. We have on several occasions, in our Trade Report, pointed out that the carbolic-acid rise was likely, if sustained, to affect the quotations of salicylic acid and its derivatives, and, had it not been for the bitter competition that has been carried on for the past fifteen months between the original combined manufacturers and the "outside" makers (a warfare that shows no sign of flagging as yet), a rise would have been declared long ago. It would also, but for those circumstances, have been much greater than that now announced, which is limited to the abolition of the special allowance of 15 per cent. discount from the net invoice-prices. That concession was established on June 15 last, but even it has failed to defeat the "outside" competition altogether. The actual quotations of the acid and its derivatives remain those established on January 26, 1895, viz:—

Article	In 1-cwt. kegs	In 1-lb. paper parcels	In 1-lb. paper parcels	In 1-lb. cart. board boxes	In 7-lb. tins or bottles	In 1-lb. bottles
Salic. acid powder	per lb. 2s. 3d.	per lb. 2s. 3½d.	per lb. 7s. 4d.	per lb. 2s. 6d.	per lb. 2s. 6d.	per lb. 2s. 6d.
" crystals	—	—	2s. 7d.	2s. 9d.	2s. 9d.	2s. 11d.
" phys. pure	—	—	—	3s. 6d.	—	4s. 8d.
Salicyl. soda powder	—	—	2s. 5d.	2s. 7d.	2s. 7d.	2s. 9d.
" crystals	—	—	—	3s. 2d.	3s. 2d.	3s. 4d.
" phys. pure	—	—	—	—	—	4s. 4d.

The old scale of discounts remains in force. It runs from 2 per cent. for 28 lb. lots up to 12 per cent. for 20-cwt. contracts.

ACID (TARTARIC) is still quoted at 1s. 3d. per lb. for B.P. quality from the manufacturers, but the market is very dull, and foreign makes offer at 1s. 2d. per lb.



**ARARоба.**—Fine qualities are extremely scarce, and there does not appear to be anything in importers' hands. An Indian Government contract was executed recently, and on that occasion some quantities of fine 70 per cent. powder were obtained in various quarters at the price of 8s per lb. and over. Very common quality is fairly plentiful, and may be had at from 4d. to 6d. per lb., but this is so low as to be practically unsaleable.

**ARSENIC.**—Advanced prices are quoted for the very small quantity offering. Best white powder is now held for 24l. to 25l. per ton.

**BALSAMS.**—*Tolu* is held for slightly firmer rates. Recently 1s. 10d. would have been accepted in first hand; to-day the quotation is 2s. per lb. for fine genuine quality. *Copaiba* tends higher. For good genuine *Maranham* 2s. 2d. per lb. is now asked. *Balsam of Peru* easier; 7s. 3d. per lb. would be accepted on the spot. This article seems difficult of sale, one of the reasons being that the importers have filled up all the Continental ports by direct shipments.

**BELLADONNA-ROOT** is about 1s. 6d. easier, 23s. 6d. per cwt. would now be accepted.

**BUCHU.**—The first hand stock has lately been reinforced by considerable arrivals, but these are not yet offered, as the owners insist upon the parcels passing through public sale in the first instance. Meanwhile fine leaves in second hand realise full rates.

**CAMPHOR (CRUDE).**—Very quiet, with an easier tendency. Recently business was reported in *Formosa* camphor at 157s. 6d., c.i.f., but since then lower prices are quoted. *Japan* camphor offers at 172s. 6d. to 175s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms. On Tuesday 200 piculs *Formosa* camphor sold for April-June shipment at 155s., c.i.f. terms.

**CAMPHOR (REFINED).**—On Monday the English manufacturers reduced their quotations 2d. per lb. all round, bells in half-ton lots being now quoted at 2s. 1½d. per lb.; other kinds in proportion. The move appears to have been made less on account of the weakening in the crude article than in order to bring the English prices more in harmony with the quotations of foreign refined camphor. The decline in English refined was followed on Wednesday by a reduction of 2d. per lb. In foreign, German bells in ½-ton lots now offer at 1s. 11½d. per lb.

**CANTHARIDES.**—Good *Russian* flies of the last crop are quoted at 2s. 3d. per lb.

**CARDAMOMS.**—The shipments of cardamoms from Ceylon in 1895 amounted to 374,635 lbs. (in 1894 they were 305,317 lbs.), of which 213,642 lbs. went to the United Kingdom and 105,165 lbs. to India. The direct exports to Germany have increased from 9,210 lbs. in 1892 to 47,386 lbs. in 1895.

**CINCHONA-BARK.**—Among the recent arrivals are 70 bales of fine HF bat bark *Calisaya* and 32 packages of *Guayaquil* crown bark. Both will probably be offered at the next drug-auctions.

**COCHINEAL** has been in somewhat improved demand recently, but there is no alteration in the quotations at present.

**COLCHICUM ROOT** is being offered from Germany at 32s. per cwt., c.i.f.; *Seed* at 35s. per cwt.

**COPPER SULPHATE** is offering at easier rates—viz., 18l. f.o.b. Liverpool or 17l. 10s. in London. The "Anchor" brand is quoted at 18l. 10s., f.o.b. Second-hand holders are offering rather below the manufacturers' prices.

**COWHAGE**, after having been long neglected, has shown some tendency to improve recently, fine sifted quality being now quoted at 9d. per oz.

**CREAM OF TARTAR** continues to decline. The values since our last report have gone about 2s. easier; best white *French* crystals now offer at 90s. to 91s., and *Powder* may be had at 93s. per cwt. The quotation for best crystals in France is now 84s. to 85s. f.o.b. Bordeaux.

**ERGOT OF RYE.**—Selling very slowly at 6½d. for fair Russian.

**EUONYMIN** is still quoted at 23s. per lb. for brown or green quality.

**GALLS.**—*Turkish* galls are firm with small sales of blue *Bassorah* at 54s.; green and white varieties of this kind are extremely scarce. *Smyrna* galls without any feature of interest; quotations are nominally 46s. for blue, 42s. 6d. for green, and from 35s. to 40s. for white.

**GUM ACACIA.**—The demand for *Soudan* gums has fallen off considerably, and very little business is reported in them this week. The quotations nominally remain from 70s. to 87s. 6d. per cwt. according to quality. For good quality 82s. 6d. has been accepted. A parcel of *Gehzirah* is offering, but very highly limited. Fair *Trieste-picked* grains offer at 6l. to 6l. 10s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms. There has been a strong demand, however, for East Indian gums, and several hundred cases have found buyers at improved rates—*Ghatti*, it is said, up to 60s. per cwt. for fine quality, *Kurachee* at 57s. 6d., *Cannupore* at 40s., and *Oomra* at 40s. per cwt. For *white Mogadore* from 62s. 6d. to 65s. per cwt. is said to have been paid, and for *brown Barbary* from 50s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt.

**GUM OLIBANUM** is barely steady, but the demand has been fairly good. At auction 146 packages sold at from 39s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good pale picked drop, 10s. to 16s. 6d. for common woody to good garblings, and 12s. to 14s. 9d. for fair to good sitings.

**GUM TRAGACANTH** remains steady, but the only business reported has been in ordinary qualities. First pale *Persian* druggists' kinds are quoted at 14l. 15s. to 15l.

**INSECT FLOWERS** remain very firm at the recent quotations. One of the leading importers has this week advanced his price by 2d. per lb., and now quotes 1s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., for best quality.

**IPECACUANHA.**—Exceedingly firm. Some fair plump, slightly damaged *Carthagena* root has been sold in second hand at 4s. 5d. per lb. this week, but 1d. more is now asked. A fair business in *Rio* root is also reported at firm, but slightly higher, prices.

**JALAP.**—Easier. New York quotes 6s. per lb., c.i.f., for fair quality new crop.

**MENTHOL.**—Decidedly lower. On the spot 11s. 9d. per lb. would be accepted, and for shipment the quotation has fallen as low as 11s. 3d. per lb.

**OIL (COD-LIVER).**—The position remains unchanged, with some slight tendency to lower rates. It should be said that some importers are exceedingly firm, but several agents for well-known brands have recently reduced their quotations, which were excessive, and brought them into something approaching harmony with the prices at which their competitors were selling. Isdahl's brand, for instance, now offers at 225s. per barrel, c.i.f., for new oil. On Friday last sales of other brands of best new oil were made at 217s. 6d. per barrel, c.i.f., but holders have since asked higher rates, and the general first-hand quotation for best new oil is now 220s. to 225s., c.i.f., while in second hand the quotations are somewhat uncertain at 210s. to 215s. per barrel, c.i.f. In good old oil sales have been made at a little over 200s. per barrel, spot, but more money is now asked, this oil being very scarce. The quotations vary from 215s. to 220s.

**OILS (ESSENTIAL).**—Owing to the fall in the Italian Exchange most *Italian* essential oils are quoted slightly easier at present. *Citronella* oil very dull of sale: 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. would buy fair native quality on the spot, while for shipment within nine months 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d., c.i.f., is quoted. *Lemon-grass*, 2½d. per oz. *Oil of cassia* quiet: 85-per-cent. oil offers at 9s. 6d., 70-per-cent. to 75-per-cent. at 8s., 50-per-cent. to 55-per-cent. 6s. 3d. per lb. The nominal quotation from China is lower—viz., 6s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. No business is doing in *Star-anise* oil, but the market remains firm at 10s. 6d. per lb.; the c.i.f. quotation is the same. *Japanese peppermint* oils quiet, with perhaps an easier tendency. *American oil of peppermint*, HGH, easier: 9s. 3d. per lb. would be accepted for quantities.

**OPIMUM.**—Very steady, but extremely quiet. All cheap parcels are cleared off for the present. For fine druggists' kinds there has been a somewhat better demand lately, and bids of 8s. 6d. per lb. are said to have been refused. For good manufacturing opium, 8s. 3d. per lb. is said to have been paid. *Soft shipping* quiet but firm at 11s. 6d. to 13s. per lb. Fine *Persian*, in bricks, is still selling slowly at 13s. per lb.



QUICKSILVER remains extremely quiet, at 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* from the importers and at 6*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* in second-hand.

QUININE remains very dull, and is tending easier. There are now second-hand holders of German bulk at 13*d.* per oz.

SAFFRON.—Firm, and inclined to be somewhat higher in price. Best *Valencia*, however, still offers at 26*s.* to 26*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; ordinary quality, at 23*s.* to 23*s.* 6*d.* per lb.

SEEDS (VARIOUS).—*Anise* remains in fair demand; but *Russian* may still be had at low figures—viz, from 21*s.* to 22*s.* 6*d.* for fair to good quality; *Spanish* is held for 30*s.* to 31*s.* per cwt. *Canary-seed* has slightly improved in price, and the demand is rather better; for *Turkish* the quotation is 31*s.* to 33*s.*; *Spanish*, 47*s.* to 55*s.*, according to quality, and ordinary to fine; *Morocco* 35*s.* to 45*s.* per quarter; a fair demand has been shown for *River Plate* seed, which offers at from 28*s.* 6*d.* to 30*s.* per quarter; in new seed of this variety no business appears to have been done. *Caraway-seed* is firm at very steady prices, fair quality *Dutch* being quoted at from 27*s.* to 29*s.* per cwt. on the spot. *Coriander* neglected, especially for *East Indian* kinds, which may now be had at 5*s.* to 10*s.* per cwt.; *Mogador* varieties, however, are not very plentiful at 13*s.* to 14*s.* *Pennugreek seed* tending higher; the stock is small, and reports from abroad indicate that the supply will be less than usual; for fair *E. Indian* the quotation is from 7*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* per cwt. *Moroccan* 9*s.* to 9*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; *Cumin-seed* 28*s.* to 29*s.* for *Mogador*, and 34*s.* per cwt. for *Maltese*.

SENNA.—*Alexandrian* leaves firm but unchanged in price: picked, 9*d.* to 10*d.*; broken from 4*d.* to 6*d.*; sorts have been sold at 2½*d.* per lb. lately. *Pods*, which are scarce, are quoted from 5*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.

SHELLAC.—At the close of last week business in *Orange* lac was quite dull, but a fair amount of *Button* lac was changing hands at steady prices. The nominal quotation for *Orange* lac, April-June shipment, is 93*s.* c. i. f. terms. At auction 854 cases were offered and firmly held, only 100 selling at steady prices—viz., 90*s.* to 91*s.* for ordinary red second orange, and 92*s.* to 95*s.* for first *Button* lac out of condition. Since the last sales the market has remained quiet. *Orange* TN is quoted on the spot at 96*s.*, *Garnet* AC at 89*s.* per cwt.

SODA SALTS.—*Hyposulphite* offers at 6*l.* 15*s.* in kegs, and 6*l.* 5*s.* in casks, on the spot, or at 5*l.* 15*s.*, f. o. b. Tyne or Antwerp. *Nitrate* firm; ordinary, 8*s.*; refined, 8*s.* 3*d.* per cwt. *Caustic*, 70-per-cent. spot, 7*l.* 15*s.* *Crystals*, 42*s.* 6*d.* per ton, ex-ship. *Beckton Prussiate*, 5½*d.* to 5¾*d.* per lb.

TAR-DISTILLATION PRODUCTS.—*Sulphate of ammonia* quiet and easier since last week. The quotations are—Beckton and Beckton terms 8*l.* per ton, London 8*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, Hull and Leith 8*l.* per ton. *Benzol* has been in demand, nineties on the spot 2*s.* 2*d.*, for forward delivery 1*s.* 11*d.* to 2*s.* 1*d.*, fifties 1*s.* 8*d.* per gallon. *Refined tar* is quoted at 10*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* 9*d.* per barrel; *crude* at 1½*d.* to 2*d.* per gallon. *Pitch* offers at 33*s.* 6*d.*, f. o. b. *Toluol*, 1*s.* 5*d.* to 1*s.* 5½*d.* *Creasote* at 1½*d.*; *liquid ditto* at 2*d.* *Naphtha*, 30 per cent, *crude* at 10*d.*; *solvent*, 90 per cent. to 95 per cent., 1*s.* 2½*d.* per gallon.

TURMERIC is dull of sale. Fair *Bengal* has changed hands in small quantities at 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. *Madras* is held at from 8*s.* to 9*s.* 6*d.* for dull to good bright finger, and 7*s.* per cwt. for whole bulb.

WAX (CERESIN) is very firmly held, and likely to be dearer. The prices run for Sarg's white from 53*s.* to 61*s.*, yellow and orange from 36*s.* to 57*s.* per cwt.

WAX (JAPAN).—Very quiet, with sellers of good white squares at 36*s.* per cwt. on the spot.

#### Heavy Chemicals.

This week again there are only few changes to report in the condition of the heavy chemical market. Business still keeps very quiet, and will of course continue so until after the holidays. The re-opening of the Baltic ports is being looked forward to with interest, and will in some degree brighten matters up. In fact, more inquiries for *Bleaching powder* are already on foot, but so far no actual business of any moment has been transacted. *Sulphate of ammonia* still declining; 333 tons only were exported from Leith last week. *Sulphate of copper* retains its firm position

at the recent high prices. For forward delivery, however, June and July, prices quoted are much lower—viz, 16*l.* 15*s.* to 17*l.* A brisker demand is to be noted for *Soda ash*, and same is rather scarce. Quotations, however, have not been affected, as up to just latterly the make had been reduced somewhat. *Recovered sulphur* continues rather scarce, and price tends upwards. *Bleaching powder* and *Caustic soda* are moving moderately well; the higher strengths of the latter, however, are not in such good demand as usual at present. *Benzols* slightly easier. An advance is to be reported in *Solvent wood naphtha* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per gallon; miscible, however, remaining unaltered; crude 30-per-cent. naphtha slightly higher, about 9½*d.* to 10*d.* per gallon.

#### The Smyrna Opium-market.

Our Smyrna correspondent writes, under date of March 20:—"We gather from very good authority that the growing crops have been very much damaged. Long-continued snow covering the plants, and dry frosty weather during January and February, have prevented farmers from putting in the winter sowings. It is now reported that the damage done averages about 50 per cent. of the sowing. The annual average outturn of the whole of Turkey is 5,000 cases. Large holders who are not pressed for capital will not sell any opium at present, except at an advance of from 8*d.* to 1*s.* per lb., but from needy, weak holders buyers secured this week 35 cases at 7*s.* 8*d.* to 8*s.* per lb., according to quality. Bankers will not or cannot help opium-holders during the financial crisis; therefore, unless business comes forward, we may see a further reduction of 2*d.* per lb., but if there are large orders next week then we must expect 4*d.* to 6*d.* advance. The arrivals of opium to date are 3,530 cases, against 2,316 last year. Present stock, including Constantinople, Salonica, near market and interior, about 4,000 cases."

#### The Amsterdam Market.

Our Amsterdam correspondent states that last Thursday's auctions of Java cinchona-bark in his city, of which a telegraphic report appeared in our last issue, passed off very quietly, but at the same time with a more general demand than has been shown for some months. The richest parcel of bark offered at the sales was a lot of 24 bales *Ledgeriana* stem bark in broken quill, produced on the Malawar estate. It analysed 11.03 per cent. of sulphate of quinine, and sold at from 38½*c.* to 38¾*c.* per half-kilo. The quantity of bark bought in at the auctions represented an equivalent of 6,129 kilos. of sulphate of quinine. The demand for pharmaceutical barks in fine bold quill or good broken quill was fairly good, and comparatively high prices were paid, whereas common kinds were quite neglected. The shipments of bark from Java during the month of March are not yet known, but they are said to be moderate. It is also rumoured that the largest of the new Java quinine factories now in progress of construction will not be in working order for some time, as certain conditions under which the funds were granted have not so far been fulfilled. The following statistics show the result of the first three auctions of the years 1896, 1895, 1894 and 1893:—

	Packages offered at the three sales	Total Weight	Total Quinine	Average Quinine Content	Quinine Sold	Quinine Bought in
		Kilos.	Kilos.	Per Cent.	Kilos.	Kilos.
1896	.. 21,040	1,977,808	101,533	5.14 to 5.53	81,366	20,632
1895	.. 22,751	1,963,134	92,289	4.63 " 4.91	49,194	43,095
1894	.. 15,869	1,363,134	64,005	4.61 " 5.12	56,899	7,106
1893	.. 17,516	1,468,971	61,936	4.23 " 4.55	39,537	22,399

The units were as follows:—

	1896	1895	1894	1893
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
First sale	.. .. 3	.. .. 2.70	.. .. 3.95	.. .. 5.80
Second sale	.. .. 2.82	.. .. 2.50	.. .. 4.40	.. .. 5.60
Third sale	.. .. 2.80	.. .. 2.85	.. .. 4.42	.. .. 5.28





### Memoranda for Correspondents.

*In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.*

*Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.*

*The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications, with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.*

### Trading in Explosives.

SIR,—The Holborn explosion and one or two minor events of a similar character suggest the advisability of warning the trade against the sale of actively-oxidising and other poisonous preparations for admixture with magnesium powder to be used as a flash-light. Within the last week, following on the publication of a variety of formulæ of this kind in one of the magazines, we have had applications for bichromate and permanganate of potash as well as red sulphuret of arsenic by parties who were evidently quite ignorant of the danger incurred by merely bringing such substances into contact with the magnesium.

By way of sequel to the above you may feel disposed to recommend the addition of something like the following to the other caution-labels employed by the pharmacist, to be attached at his discretion to parcels of chlorate of potash and similar chemicals, especially when it is suspected that these are to be used by amateur pyrotechnists or photographers.

*Notice.*—This substance, though comparatively safe when kept apart from other chemicals, should not be carelessly brought into contact with sulphur, magnesium, or similar substances or their compounds. When it is desired to make such a mixture for any special purpose, it should only be done subject to the advice and direction of the trader who supplied this.

C. C. (39/40.)

[We may add, as an extra precaution, that the mixture of such chemicals for the purpose of producing a pyrotechnic effect by any unauthorised person—chemists included—is an infringement of the Explosives Act, and renders the offender liable to heavy penalties.—ED. C. & D.]

### The Opium Habit.

SIR—I can fully endorse your advice to "Opium" in last week's "Correspondence." I remember, when I was an apprentice, a poor woman coming every day for her 2 oz. bottle of laudanum, which was her daily consumption. Increasing infirmity compelled her to send her son for the drug; but, through a dishonest motive, he did not ask for the full quantity, and, after being served, would fill up the bottle from the water-tap, and no doubt pocketed the difference. This was very dishonest, no doubt, but it acted beneficially on his mother, who thus used less and less of the drug until it was almost, if not entirely, given up. I do not think she ever found out or suspected the trick her son played on her. As a contrast, I remember a poor man's wife who was a slave to the opium habit, and came to the shop where I was apprentice for her "six twos" of opium—which meant six two-pennyworths. This 1s. a week increased to 1s. 6d., then 2s., and, at last, 3s. was not enough to purchase the desired quantity. What a drain this must have been on the family resources. She died, at last, a miserable object, craving to the last for her favourite drug. Many of your readers could give gruesome stories of this deadly habit.

March 24.

Faithfully yours,

SODA CARE (40/15.)

### A Chemist's Window.

SIR,—A few weeks before Christmas I put my considering-cap on *re* window-attraction, and the following is the result:—

I raised floor of window up to bottom of back mirror, where the "door" of the window opens. On the raised portion I laid a large mirror, flat, and lined the frame with cotton-wool. I then laid all the floor with cotton-wadding (4d. per yard). On this I put, in one corner of the window, a big heap of lump borax (alum is better), and stranded amongst this was a Southall's Norwegian boat. An admirable plaster toy bear was stealthily creeping over the other end of the piled borax or ice. Near this was an Esquimaux hut, made by building 1d. squares of camphor round and over top of an inverted basin placed on a shallow box about 9 inches square. In opposite end of window, near shore of the "frozen lake," was a hut built of virgin cork with dabs of cotton-wool to make it seasonable—a fairy light inside—a card figure of Santa Claus plodding across the snow (with beaming rubicund visage) towards the ship. A pile of borax here and there on floor of window and grouped round the lake. A penny packet of glass frost scattered over all. Round the inside of window-enclosure (back and side) I stretched (tightly) white muslin, and painted it with bluish icebergs, and higher up the canvas a drifting orange and carmine cloud, and at the back a carmine sunset, with clouds and birds flying. I don't want to brag, but I felt as complacent as a cat after a good feed on canary when the window was finished. Then I put a card in the window offering prizes 5s. and 2s. 6d. for the best and second best description of the whole window; competitors not to be more than 15 years of age. Result, an incessant crowd of interested spectators and customers till the 4th or 5th of January, when we emptied the window. I enclose one of the efforts of a competitor. A schoolmaster judged the competition.

Yours faithfully,

NOMEN. (259/52.)

### "Cheating the Doctors."

SIR,—I read in your issue the other week that Dr. Westcott described chemists' prescribing as "cheating the doctors." He says that members of his profession get their diplomas in order to prescribe, and the "chemist is supposed to make up the prescriptions" taken to him.

What remedy would Dr. Westcott prescribe for chemists suffering from competition such as the following?—

A customer—a neighbour—brought a prescription a short time ago to be dispensed. It was written in hieroglyphic, being meant, as I knew, for a limited company trading as chemists. I asked the person to come back in about two hours, and I would try to have the medicine ready. I then sent a courteous note to the doctor, asking if he would kindly give me the formula for the mixture ordered for Mr. —, and the following is a copy of his reply:—

Dr. — wishes to say that the Pres. is a private formula which he declines to give to Mr. —.

When the lady returned for the medicine I told her what I had done, and where she would have to go; she then said as she had got the doctor's advice, and the boy was not seriously ill, she would prefer to do without the medicine.

Yours &c.

NORTH. (40/69.)

### Tartaric Acid and the B.P.

SIR,—Referring to your report of the Belfast cream-of-tartar case in your issue of to-day, we would like to state that we have tried over and over again to get our absurd B.P. test altered.

Cream of tartar, 99° to 100°, is now being made at virtually a *pro rata* price and should be made the standard, as in the U.S.A., Germany, &c. We never hear of 92 tartaric acid. Why not?

Yours truly,

KIRKPATRICK, BARR & GUTHRIE.

4 Cullum Street, London, March 27.

### Mr. Ledger's Cinchona-expeditions.

SIR,—I am sorry to say I have not yet received a reply from the Dutch Government to my respectful application made in the early part of this year for financial assistance in consideration of services rendered to the people of



Holland many years ago. I therefore beg of you to publish the following concerning my career, supplementary to what has already appeared in your Summer number:—

When I arrived in Peru from London, in 1836, I took with me letters of introduction to the great mercantile houses of Lima—Gibbs, Crawley & Co. and Fred Huth Gruning & Co.—and obtained employment with Messrs. Naylor, Kendall & Co.

As previously stated, it was entirely owing to Manuel Mamani's great practical knowledge of cinchona-bark that my attention was so particularly attracted to the great value of the "Rojo" variety. In 1850 I became aware of its superior richness in quinine through the assay made by Mr. Marchant, in La Paz, of a "slab" I took with me from Pelechuco, and in March, 1852, it was arranged between my partner, Mr. A. Luis Blondel, and myself that I should go to Ceylon and there purchase from 100 to 300 acres of suitable land for the purpose of forming a cinchona-plantation. Mr. Blondel was to contribute 6,000*l.* and I was to find 1,000*l.* and to manage the business on joint account. We calculated that it would take nearly ten years before any return could be had. It was entirely owing to having to wait so long for return of capital and profit in our projected cinchona enterprise that when, in November, 1851, Mr. G. H. Nugent, her Majesty's Consul at Arica, addressed me on the subject of obtaining a number of alpacas for Australia, I determined to abandon the cinchona project for the alpaca-trade—a resolution I have often regretted.

I most distinctly assure you there were no prohibitory laws in Bolivia against the exportation of alpacas until 1855, months after all but one of my flocks were out of Bolivian territory. I also assure you that the "head man" and shepherds of each flock had passports, all in order. Had my alpacas been detained by the authorities I should have applied to the British Government to get me compensation from Bolivia, as I had broken no law in any way. I had no objection, however, to breaking the law against the exportation of the animals then in force in Peru, and could have got a flock of alpacas away at small cost; but I was restrained for fear of compromising my father and brother-in-law, both holding high positions in the Peruvian public service.

In a former account I have already stated how on the eve of Manuel's son's return from Australia to South America I got news that Mr. Markham was not allowed to enter Bolivia, and how I hastily formed the determination of directing Manuel to obtain for me a supply of best cinchona-seeds, especially of the "Rojo" variety, at the same time sending him \$200 for his expenses. Had I thought it possible he could have been delayed as long as he was (five years) I most certainly would never have moved in the matter, simply from inability to meet the outlay. As it was well known to me how Dr. Hasskarl had been providentially prevented from entering Bolivia in 1854, and how Mr. Markham had also been turned back from the Bolivian frontier in 1850, I naturally thought that if I could succeed where two special expeditions had failed I should be well recompensed. I was also fully aware of Manuel's often-expressed disinclination to get the seed for me. He was full of the prejudices of his race. Repeatedly round our camp fires during my alpaca-expedition have I heard him approve of the steps taken by the "Cascarilleros" (bark-cutters) to prevent "Gringos" (Europeans) taking seed or plants of the cinchona out of their country. It was only on saying good-bye to him on the beach of Caldera in 1858 that he said to me, "Adios! adios! mi patron, should you ever wish to get seed of the 'rojo' you have only to send your order and I will get it for you," the tears running down his cheeks at the time. When I heard in 1855 that he had applied four times for money to my father-in-law at Tacua I felt assured he would do his best to satisfy me. And so it eventually turned out. But, as I had not seen the seed picked myself (although thoroughly believing all that Manuel told me), I placed no fixed value on the seed, and told my brother to leave all remuneration to the honour and good faith of the Governments that took it after a trial had been made as to its real value. Certainly, my brother did not get my letter until some six weeks after receiving the seed, and in the meantime he had delivered a quantity of it to the Dutch Consul in London. No price was asked. Four hundred florins were sent to my brother some three weeks after, and after twelve years I received, upon application, 100*l.* more, the

greater part of which I spent on compensating Manuel's family for his loss.

You will see that it is hardly fair to call it a "mercantile speculation." I also ask, How was the valuation arrived at in 1855, when 400 florins were sent to my brother? Who was so bold as to place a value on a seed the like of which has never been seen before or after? Then, in 1882, when its value had been fully proved, was 100*l.* a just and fair return for most valuable service rendered to the people of Holland? From my willing expenditure of hardly earned money they have received millions of pounds, and will yet reap greater returns.

Yours respectfully,

C. LEDGER.

Kenmore, Goulburn, New South Wales.

## DISPENSING NOTES.

Correspondents should consult "The Art of Dispensing" in regard to dispensing difficulties. Difficulties not explained therein may be sent to the Editor, who invites a general expression of opinion upon the under-mentioned topics.

### The Illegible Prescriptions.

Most of the correspondents who have sent postcard renderings of the Liverpool prescriptions read them correctly.

*Pylin M in Hyd p x 11  
Sacchar. alb. 3j*

The first correct reading of this was by "Plymothian," viz:—

Hydrag. submur. .. .. gr. xij.  
Sacchar. albi .. .. 3j.

Up to the time of writing correct replies had also been received from G. T. Sumner, A. D. Watson, J. B. Leslie, J. Harrison, T. Hamilton, Thomas S. Taylor, "Kew," "Dentifrice," Robinson (Hull), W. J. Connor, and "Merches." The following curious misreadings are worth recording:—

Quinin. hyd.	.. gr. xij.	Sol. morph. hyd.	.. gtt. xij.
Sacch. alb.	.. 3j.	Sacch. ust.	.. 3j.
Pil. mas. hydarg.	gr. xij.	Pulv. morph. hyd.	gt. xij.
Sacch. alb.	.. 3j.	Sacch. alb.	.. 3j.
Perechloride of mercury	.. .. gr. xij.		
Sacch. alb.	.. .. 3j.		

Those who have sent in these renderings should compare with the original. In deciphering badly-written prescriptions it is always well to remember that out-of-the-way combinations are not likely to be written so carelessly as the above. The four incorrect renderings astonish us; we have never seen such combinations, although the last seems a possible one.

The second prescription was—

*A. Hy. Hydarg  
mitte 12  
Pulv. Quinæ p x 11  
mitte 12  
1 pulv. ter in die*

G. T. Sumner's reading of this is—

Ung. hydrag.  
Infuscaud nocte.  
Pulv. quinæ .. .. gr. v.  
Mitte 12.  
1 pulv. ter in die.

With the exception of the directions for the use of the



ointment, other correspondents agree with Mr. Sumner. The Latinity in some instances is peculiar, e.g. :—

Misce. fiat ungt.	Si opus sit nocte.
M. f. ut nocte.	M. d. ut nocte.
Fort recentis.	Si fiat nocte.
Sig. utend. nocte.	

31/40. *Sedox*.—Quinine Sulphate and Butyl Chloral Hydrate liquefy when rubbed together, in the same way as quinine and phenol. A mass is easily made with this powder: Pulv. acaciæ 3j.; pulv. tragacanth. 3j.; pulv. sacch. alb. 3ij.; pulv. glycyrrhiz. 3iv. M.

40/52. *Dum*.—Manna is the best Excipient for Calomel.

40/73 *Buxton*.—We have tried to make the mixture unrepresentable, but cannot. Dissolve the sodium sulphocarbonate in half the water and add the mucilage of tragacanth to it. Rub down the bismuth subnitrate with  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of water, and transfer to the bottle, washing out the mortar with more water. Finish in the ordinary way.

35/60. *H. E. N.*—Some medical men seem to think that because lanoline mixes with a certain proportion of water it will mix with any quantity just as glycerine would. The man who prescribed the following seems to be of that sort :—

Lanoline .. .. .	3j.
Glycerine .. .. .	3j.
Lin. saponis ad .. .. .	3iv.

M. Ft. lubricant.

To be rubbed into the feet once a day.

## LEGAL QUERIES.

Immediate information on pharmaco-legal matters is available in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty," and THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

44/51. *Cromer*.—Your necessary certificate that you have been for three years practically engaged in the translation and dispensing of prescriptions can be made by anyone who has a knowledge of the facts. State the exact circumstances, and indicate who will certify, to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, and ascertain if that will be satisfactory.

43/47. *Ergot*.—There is no law expressly relating to the sale of ext. ergot. liq. other than the Pharmacy Act. But, knowing as you do how easily it may be misused, and how readily authorities take an unfavourable view of chemists' conduct, it is prudent to take every reasonable precaution before supplying even nurses with the article. The best way is to have a medical man's authorisation.

110/26. *W. D. C.*—The Birmingham County Court's jurisdiction does not extend to South Africa. We cannot judge of the validity of your claim from the information you give us. It is presumable, though not absolutely certain, that if the proprietor of the business accepted your services he is liable for whatever payments his manager promised you.

45/29. *Shiach*.—It is impossible for us to say whether a certain label is or is not "an infringement of anyone's rights." If it is original with you the chances are millions to one that it does not correspond with any other.

45/58. *Justitia*.—You seem to confuse the 15th and the 17th sections of the Pharmacy Act. For the purpose of the latter the person on whose behalf the sale is made is "the seller," and therefore the proprietor's name should appear on the poison-label—not the name of the assistant.

45/18. *Nemo*.—Formerly the Board of Inland Revenue would grant an interim wine-licence valid until the next licensing-sessions on the recommendation of one or two magistrates. But we believe they have refused to do this lately. Ask them.

## MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

Back numbers containing formulæ, educational or other specific information can be obtained from the Publisher.

N.B.—All queries should be accompanied by the business card of a subscriber, or the address label from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST wrapper. We destroy anonymous letters. We do not answer queries of the kind here dealt with by post. We ask that separate queries shall be written on separate sheets of paper.

35/3. *Nabob*.—Dr. F. W. Pavy's "Nature and Treatment of Diabetes" (Churchill, 10s.) is one of the most notable works. The first part of Dr. W. H. Dickinson's "Renal and Urinary Affections" (Longmans, 12s. 6d.) deals solely with this trouble.

24/71. *E. A.*—We have published numerous formulæ for Depilatories. This is another :—

Sodium sulphide .. .. .	3liij.
Quicklime .. .. .	5x.
Starch .. .. .	3x.

Mix.

To be made into a paste with water, and applied to the hairy part. In three or four minutes wipe it off with the back of a knife.

32/41. *Constant Reader*.—Ess. White Rose.—No. 5 formula in the 1895 DIARY, page 396, is the nearest to Atkinson's in odour, but it is the better by the addition of a trace of ambergris.

34/1. *Revilo*.—The nurse should read Begbie's "Medical Information and Advice" (Nelson, 2s 6d.). Although it is a trifle out of date, it gives sound advice as to what to do, and advises the minimum of medicine, so that she is not likely to go far astray in the doctor's absence.

28/13. *Combe*.—Yes; you will find a formula for Toilet-vinegar in the C. & D., November 23, 1895, page 775.

34/20. *Eddie*.—You appear not to have read the article "How to do the Photographic Trade," in this year's DIARY, page 389, which gives the information you desire.

30/4. *Rad Rhei*.—Acetanilide should be given in powders. It is not soluble in anything drinkable. See the "Art of Dispensing."

33/67. *Subscriber* (Belfast).—Children's Hair-powder.—See C. & D., November 30, 1895, page 810.

35/44. *South Coast*.—We have not a formula, but if we find one we shall print it.

35/43. *Olive*s.—We are trying to get the information for you.

36/24. *K. J. C*.—Whitla's "Dictionary of Therapeutics," published by Renshaw, will suit you.

35/57. *Jamie*.—(1) Ess Zingib. Sol.—C & D., March 2, 1895, page 329. (2) Ess. Limon. Sol.—C. & D., July 27, 1895, page 124. (3) Two ounces of any essence is sufficient for a gallon of syrup. A little vanilla would improve the essence on page 336.



31/68. *Enzyme*.—The precipitated silica which you send is quite right, but we know where a similar article can be obtained at 1s a lb. The silica charged 3d. per lb. is the same, but is unfit for use until it is sifted very finely.

34/10. *Zarawowski*.—Your formula for aniline marking-ink is impracticable. See the reply to another correspondent.

37/31. *Menthon*.—In the *C. & D.* for 1885 there is a useful paper on the Manufacture of Menthol Cones, and a better one in our issue of May 24, 1890, page 707.

29/49. *J. P.*—Please refer to our advertisement pages.

40/19. *R. H. C.*—Ink-powder :—

Tannin .. .. .	3j.
Dried sulphate of iron .. .. .	5iss.
Powdered gum arabic .. .. .	9iv.
Sugar .. .. .	9ij.
Aniline blue, B. .. .. .	9ij.

Mix.

Dissolve in a quart of water.

104/34. *J. H.*—Eucalyptus oil is what we should give for the quaint order, "You da du lick."

30/9. *G. B. S.*—Manicure Nail-bleach.—This is acid. sulph. dil. with a little glycerine and perfume.

30/36. *A. B.* wants to know "what it is that solidifies with heat and gets liquid with cold."

33/16. *Sceptic*.—There is no alkaloid in Nettle-root. Its diuretic properties are due to an essential oil. To anticipate any further inquiry we may add that the oil is not a commercial article.

96/11 (*B. C.*) and 36/49 (*Carboy*).—Show-bottle Colours. —*Blue*: Sulphate of copper 1 lb., water 1 gallon; dissolve and add liq. ammon. fort. until a clear liquid is obtained, then dilute to the shade desired. —*Green*: The above solution without ammonia, but add salt 2 lbs., to produce a green tint, or use solution of nitrate of copper. Sulphate of nickel makes a prettv and permanent solution, but is more expensive. —*Red*: Dissolve alizarine paste in liq. ammon. fort. and dilute to the colour desired. This is a permanent colour. Or iodine and potassium iodide of each 5ij., hydrochloric acid 3ij., water cong. iij. —*Orange*: Solution of potass. bichrom. —*Pink*: Nitrate of cobalt 1 lb., water 2 gallons; dissolve, and add a solution of carbonate of ammonia until the precipitate formed is redissolved; dilute to 3 gallons (or as desired), and set aside in the sun for a month, then decant. The last colour for "Carboy."

29/48. *J. D. & Co.* (Philadelphia).—Oleum Viride you can make by dissolving chlorophyll in cotton-seed oil. It used to be made by boiling in 40 oz. of olive oil, 3 oz. each of bay-leaves, rue-leaves, marjoram-leaves, sea-wormwood-leaves and chamomile (all fresh gathered) until they were crisp, pressing, settling and decanting the clear oil. The formula used to be in the London Pharmacopœia, but has been long since forgotten in the common practice of giving simply an oil coloured green. Oil of Swallows was once made from swallows; now alkanet is as near the swallow as we can get here. You may make it by colouring cotton-seed oil with alkanet.

38/15. *Subscriber*.—You will find much interesting information regarding the use of ivy-gum as a Fish bait in the *C. & D.*, February 24, 1894, page 294. Oil of ivy is also used, it being made by macerating the berries in olive oil. As such things are difficult to obtain, modern substitutes are

simply ol. viride perfumed with ol. rhodii, ol. anisi, and the like. The following is a good bait :—

Gum. benzoin. .. .. .	3j.
Ol. olive .. .. .	3xij.

Powder the gum, mix with the oil, and macerate for a day; after a preliminary heat on a water-bath, strain, and add :—

Ol. rhodii .. .. .	5ss.
Ol. patchouli .. .. .	1vj.
Ol. viridis .. .. .	3iss.

M.

This oil is to be rubbed on the worms used as bait.

35/55. *J. A. W.*—The following are the best works on Crystallography :—"The Morphology of Crystals," by N. Story-Maskelyne, M.A., F.R.S.; "An Introduction to Chemical Crystallography," by Andrew Fock, translated and edited by W. J. Pope. Both these books are published by H. Frowde, Amen Corner, E.C.

## INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

For this section we are always glad to receive from subscribers brief notes on practical subjects, recipes which have been found good in practice or which have required modification, and hints or fresh ideas on any pharmaceutical or trade matter.

Electuary e Scammonio.—This is the formula given in Lewis's "New Dispensatory" (ed. ii., 1765):—Scammony, 1½ oz.; cloves and ginger, each, 6 dr.; ess. oil of caraway, ½ dr.; honey, ½ lb. Let the spices be ground together and mixed with the honey; then add the powdered scammony, and afterwards the oil. The author says:—"This electuary is a warm, brisk purgative. It is a reform of the *electuarium caryocortinum* of our preceding dispensatories, a composition which was greatly complained of, as being inconvenient to take, on account of the largeness of the dose. A dram and a half of this, which contains fifteen grains of scammony, is equivalent to half an ounce of the other." P. M. (36/90.)

For Minor Students.—The following are samples of work given at the sessional prize examination of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, and represent a typical day's work at the Minor examination (pharmacy and dispensing):—

Plumbi acetatis .. .. .	gr. j.	Sode tartarate .. .. .	5iss.
Camphori .. .. .	gr. j.	Tinct. ferri perchlor. ...	5ss.
Pulv. opii .. .. .	gr. j.	Sodii bicarbonatis .. .. .	5j.
Pulv. capsici .. .. .	gr. j.	Syrupi simplicis .. .. .	3ss.
Fiat pilulæ. Mitte xij.		Aqua ad .. .. .	3ij.

Sig.: Cap. j. quarta quaque hora donec dolor cessaver.

Cere flav. .. .. .	5ii.
Ol. olive .. .. .	5ij.
Mel. .. .. .	5ij.
Liquor. plumb. subacet. ..	5ij.

Misce secund. art. ut fiat unguent.

Sig.: Extende super alutam applicand.

Make about 1 oz. of glycerine of starch, and with this prepare 5iv. of an application containing 10 per cent. of zinc oxide and 2 per cent. of phenol. State the quantities used on the label.

Make the B.P. quantity of Liquor sodii ethylatis.

The whole examination was an admirable pre-Galen Place test one, but we have not space for printing the papers. Students who would like to see them should write to the Principal of the College, 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

A Long Price for Quinine.—I notice in the *Union Line Gazette* for March that Capt. Tyson, of the *Guclph*, speaking of the Asiatic plague in the Mauritius in the later sixties, says, "Quinine was the only cure for it, and there was so little of this stuff to be got on the island that the price actually went up to 50l. per oz. and more." Rather different to its price nowadays! J. B. (36/7.)